

SEVEN DAYS



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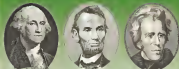
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to a political party instead of voting across political lines? The only party politicians should be voting for in the American public, no matter how difficult, unpopular or short-lived that causes their time in office to be.

Demetri Horwood
Middlebury

BIKE BILL EXPLAINED

On "Peculiar Bills Address Shallow Goals, Stability and the Tragic Tax," January 25, I submitted a bill that proposes to require bicyclists to be registered in Vermont because several of my constituents asked me to do it. To clarify: I submitted a "by-request" piece of legislation, which means that it isn't not actually in favor of the bill. As a state representative, I see the link between my constituents and state government, and as their representative, my job is to make sure that all of my constituents are heard. Their input is heard upon all proposed bills—by request and not — are directed to a committee to undergo a process whereby they receive testimony both pro and con. The bills that are chosen to be acted upon must pass out of committee in both the House and Senate and then be signed by the governor to become law. The bill is not taken simply "on the up" or "on the down" of the committee. This process starts over each session.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for me to educate your newspaper and Vermonters about the legislative process.

Cindy Reed
ANDOVER, VT

Word is a Progressive representative from Benning Falls.

MONEY FOR WADES, NOT MARKETING

I thank John Waters for his Fair Game column ["Chasing Trump?," February 1]. While the subhead — "Politico Critics No Match for the Donald" — is undeniable, there was a subsection titled "Vaporware Cash" that is also undeniable. This was about \$750,000 going from the governor's office to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to help "market Vermont as a tourist destination."

Commerce Secretary Michael Schefano expressed that "he would happily accept the money" and that it would address a "need for enhanced marketing efforts." This is an overboard, but I think that this and other monies would be spent where they would accomplish more good.

In case businesses such as Schefano do not know this, these enhanced efforts are already occurring daily on the frontlines of Vermont's tourism industry, via the hotel clerks, the lift operators, bartenders, chefs and servers, retail workers, state park attendants, and all the others who interact with the multitudes of visitors that come to Vermont. Many do it for far less money than starvation wages. Their jobs are often called "transitory," "seasonal," "temporary" or very high.

This \$750,000 gift would accomplish much more if it found ways to enhance the wages of these enhanced caretakers and recognize their integral and skilled part in making Vermont the unique destination it is for people the world over. Until this happens, it will only enrich those in the bubble who call for these subsidies.

Walter Carpenter
MIDDLEBURY

HIGH TIME TO LEGALIZE

In "Off Message," Scott Administrator Typeman Vermont Marijuana Legislation Bill," February 10, Joe Phil Scott's remarks on marijuana are a prime example of lawless lawmaking, which aims to protect the facts. Specifically, the use of children as a way to control them is a re-creation of the realities surrounding legislation. To clarify, a study completed by Colorado's Department of Public Health & Environment has found that marijuana consumption by Colorado's high school students has dropped slightly since the state first permitted recreational cannabis. This is because legislation helps to keep marijuana out of children's hands through state regulation. As a result, there will no longer be a dealer whose willing to reach out to any age group. If Scott truly exercised love best to protect and benefit our children, he would realize that legislation would not only protect our children, but also help to fund and expand

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SATURDAY 18 CRAZY EX-GIRLFRIEND

They say that Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned, and, judging by the 2015 Fox *Tangerine*, they're right. Set in Hollywood, Calif., an Christmas Eve, director Sean Baker's acclaimed comedy tracks a transgender prostitute played by Kitana Kiki Rodriguez as she hunts down her cheating boyfriend. Follow the leading lady on her warpath—filmed on an iPhone camera—on a Hulu burl.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING
ON PAGE 52

MONDAY 20 WEDNESDAY 22 Ready, Set, Om

Giving into a new hobby can be intimidating. This page between the mats, the poses, the mudras and the flow, it may seem easier to say "Namaste" in front of a class than it is to do it. **Warrent: Yoga Week** breaks down the benefits of off-in-person steps of discounted classes, allowing pages of all levels and abilities, to visit studios, meet teachers and find their perfect fit.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 52

3

FRIDAY 17

Louisiana State of Mind

The scenery, shops and flavors of southern Louisiana spice up the Green Mountain State during Chandler Muse Hall's *Cajun Night*. A cultural dinner goes away for a brief breakfast, followed by a night of dancing to the zydeco stylings of New England ensemble *Swingin' Chicks*. A cocktail by Jeffrey Reed brings Mardi Gras revelers in and sparks.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 51

4

FRIDAY 17

Road Trip

Let lovers and bicycle buffs find common ground at a *Book Presentations and Raging* by local author Robert L. McCaughy. The University of Vermont professor of historic preservation offers up his 2015 publication *Old Vermont: Traces of Bicycle History on the Land* chronicling the ways in which 19th-century two-wheeled travelers helped shape American landscapes and roadways.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 51

5

FRIDAY 17

Happy Hour

What better way to blow off steam at the end of the week than with a good old-fashioned rock show? *Sound by Public* hosted the *Mountain Says No* play in and turn up this Friday at *Amoeba* to celebrate the release of *Solid in Carbon*, their collection of rare live recordings that find the band in a backhanded dancing and general musical combat.

SEE STUFF ON PAGE 51

6

FRIDAY 17 & SATURDAY 18

Birdsong

A wordless comic by Vermont's first cartoonist, *Birdsong* has a natural voice: being. In a full week of art, inspired by James Kochalka's *Smegma*, poet Sydney Lea and composer Joseph Hollman added original music and music, resulting in a unique multimedia collaboration. **Vermont Contemporary Music** is available for forms. The *Seagull* and the *Star* in *Mountain* and *Birdsong*.

SEE STUFF OF THE ARTS ON PAGE 52

7

SATURDAY 18

Enchanted Evening

The leading women in Vermont's premiere "swell Dorothy" have also stepped into the "technical" land of 13, higher ground and combined into a sensory experience for those of us who love the *Winter in a Dingy*. Inspired by the theme "The Mountain and the Woods," participants dress their best for a night of vibrant, lip-synch, live entertainment and monsoon dance music.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 52



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Senate bill 579, the “Immigration Legislation” cosponsored by Gov. Pini, 802.771-0171, and Sen. Chris Egan, is on the fastest of tracks through the Legislature. The Senate Judiciary Committee is likely to vote it out this week, with floor action coming next week.

The bill has been widely celebrated as a protection of Vermonters’ rights. Media accounts refer to Scott’s “defiance” of President Donald Trump’s executive orders on immigration and, in the words of a VTIndependent headline, his “challenge to immigration enforcement.”

But, in truth, 579 is more flesh than substance.

The bill has two major provisions. The first would prevent the creation and sharing of data registries based on religion, national origin or immigration status. The second would bar local and county police agencies from making deals with the feds to assist in border or immigration enforcement.

A worthy effort — especially coming from a Republican governor — but the bill’s immediate impact is, well, negligible.

“I don’t think the bill right now changes any existing relationships between state and federal law enforcement,” says Public Safety Commissioner Tom Anderson.

Those “existing relationships” are deep and wide-ranging, and even without them the feds have substantial powers of their own. None of that would be affected by 579.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection has broad authority to operate anywhere within 100 miles of an international boundary or coastal body of water. That includes virtually all of Vermont except for the southernmost corner.

According to JAMES ENAL, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont, USCIBP has “un-bounded search and seizure authority” within that zone.

“They are empowered to set up so-called checkpoints,” he says. “They are empowered to make so-called moving vehicle stops when they have reasonable suspicion of an immigration violation.”

That empowerment is limited, Lofgren says, by Fourth Amendment protections from search and seizure. However, he adds, “That is something the agency sometimes refuses to mention or simply violates.”

BRIAN BRANT, special operations supervisor for USCIBP’s Stowe sector,

offers a bit of reassurance. “The border patrol in the past probably eight years has focused pretty much exclusively on cross-border activity,” he says.

That may be, but as recently as three years ago the Department of Homeland Security was planning to build a permanent checkpoint on Interstate 91 near White River Junction, slightly less than 100 miles south of the border. As a matter of fact, there were plans for interior checkpoints on every north-south freeway in the Northeast, from Interstates 95 to 87. The plans were shelved but could be dusted off pretty quickly if, say, the Trump administration boots funding for DHS.

Starting in 2003, the border patrol frequently conducted temporary checkpoints on I-91 exit area in Hartford.

IN TRUTH, VERMONT'S ANTI-TRUMP IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION IS MORE FLASH THAN SUBSTANCE.

According to contemporaneous media accounts, some locals called them “whimsical checkpoints” because so many minorities were subjected to questioning and search.

“It was pretty disruptive,” recalls ALAN GILBERT, ACLU Vermont’s former executive director. “People who live in the area use I-91 on a daily, sometimes several times daily, basis.”

Those checkpoints rarely, if ever, found any terror suspects.

“The ACLU did a Freedom of Information [Act] request on that,” says Gilbert. “Almost all of the arrests were about drugs, and the majority of them were about marijuana.”

In 2013 the U.S. Senate approved comprehensive immigration reform legislation, including a provision authored by Sen. JONAS DOLY (D-Vt.) that would have reduced the USCIBP’s operation zone to 25 miles from the border. At the time, Lofgren called the broader zone “an intrusive practice” that “simply is not a productive use of border enforcement dollars.” That bill died in the House, so the 100-mile zone remains on the books.

The townships’ Federal border agencies already have broad powers

encompassing virtually all of Vermont. 579 would not restrict their activities. Which is perhaps why the feds haven’t said boo about the bill, even as some local and county law enforcement officials have raised concerns.

The most publicized aspect of 579 is its limits on the authority of county and local agencies to strike their own deals with the feds to serve as deputized immigration enforcement officers, as one of Trump’s executive orders contemplated. That’s true, but the “existing relationships” touted by Anderson are so deep that it’s hard to imagine how a specific agreement with a local agency would provide much additional help.

For starters, there’s the fact that local, county and state law enforcement is thin on the ground in Vermont’s northernmost counties.

“The St. Albans Police Department is probably the only true 24-7 law enforcement in the area besides the local sheriff,” notes Laurelle Casady Sheriff ROGER MARTELLO, a past president of the Vermont Sheriff’s Association. “There’s none, you know, two in the morning, there’s nobody out and [USCIBP officers] maybe the first responders.”

No wonder officials like Anderson and Marcella so highly value their friendly no-strings deals. If they had to depend solely on the locals, they’d be severely stretched.

Another form of established relationship comes from Operation Stargarden, a federal grant program that provides a secondary income stream to local officers and deputies. (It has since been named by a lot of 90s grunge rock.)

“We will pay overtime for county and local department officers to come help us patrol the border,” says Brent.

How common is this arrangement? “If you look at the whole state, it’s probably pretty frequent,” says Brent. Which means that many of Vermont’s sworn officers have their own contracted relationships with the feds, and 579 does nothing about that.

It also raises the possibility that local officers might gather information during their regular hours and use it on to their federal bosses later on, or act on it themselves while on the clock for the border patrol.

Spelling last week about 579, Attorney General B. ROMAN said the bill “shows a bright line.” Between Operation Stargarden and the realties

of borders are less enforcement, it's difficult to discern a clear line at all.

Deans Departs

After four years at the helm of the Vermont Democratic Party, chair **BORIS BLANK** is preparing to step down. The party's state committee plans to meet March 4 to pick an interim chair, who will serve out the remaining eight months of her term.

"It's a good time to give someone else the opportunity," she explains. "It makes sense for someone to take over now to get ready for 2018. This is a reorganization year, and a lot of energy needs to be put into the town and the counties."

She notes that such energy is an ongoing supply; the challenges it is ongoing.

So far, two people have announced their candidacies. Only one has a realistic shot at winning.

Contender No. 1 is **BARBARA GILL** — a Winoski attorney, Chittenden County Democratic Party chair and major Dean donor — who made an unsuccessful bid for the Vermont Senate in 2006. It's the odds-on favorite.

The long-shot candidate is 20-year-old **MAX CLARK** of Thetford, a self-described "barbecue" who volunteered for Sen. **ROBERT SANDERS** (D-Vt.) presidential campaign. Clark also made an ill-fated bid for state representative in 2016, challenging incumbent Rep. **THE BRIGGS** (D-Thetford) and **JIM MALLARD** (D-Thetford) in the Windsor-Orange-2 district. He finished a distant third.

The two men have similar pitches for the state committee.

"I want to expand the party a lot," says GILL. "We need to figure out our message going forward." He welcomes the participation of the Sanders contingent for its "great ideas" and its passion. GILL also talks of closer ties between the state party and the grassroots. "My goal is to reach out to the county parties and the town chairs," he says. "We need to make sure we are set up in all parts of the state."

"I want to see the party become more transparent, accessible and democratic," Clark says. "We aren't focused enough on the grassroots currently in Vermont."

Each candidate plans to run for a full term in November if successful on March 4.

As for Deans, she's ready to take a break. "I'm wrong part," she says. "I've given it 100 percent plus. And I just feel like it's not going for someone else."

"I'm not gonna disappear," she concludes. "It just needs to be recharged."

In one of her final acts as chair, Deans plans to support Congressman **BORIS BLANK** (D-Minn.) in his bid for chair of the Democratic National Committee. Other Vermonters with a veto — Secretary of State **JIM CONNORS**, VDP vice chair **JOE ANTONIA**, and DNC members **THOMAS ANDERSON** and Rep. **MARY SULLIVAN** (D-Burlington) — have also committed to the five-term congressman.

Ellison, a prominent surrogate for Sanders' presidential campaign, has been characterized as the insurgent candidate — and has benefited from Sanders' support. But he earned Deans' backing for his organizational commitment.

"My emphasis was on state funding, support for the state parties, which is also in question," she says. "We need DNC support to keep our doors open and our staff employed year-round."

"Keith addressed that better," she adds, comparing Ellison to former U.S. labor secretary **TOM PENCE**, the choice of many mainstream Deans. "Tom won't give us guarantees any money for the state parties. That put me back late last year."

The DNC will elect a new chair on February 25.

Media Notes

The Burlington Free Press continues to bleed subscribers like a stack of paper.

From December 2015 to December 2016, daily print circulation dropped from 12,515 to 10,526, according to the Alliance for Audited Media, which tracks newspaper circulation rates. That's down from 15,336 in 2015.

The paper's Sunday audience, declined at a similar rate last year: from 22,636 to 20,390. A decade earlier, weekend circulation was as high as 33,302.

The news wasn't all bad for the Free Press. The paper managed to increase its paid digital circulation from 4,367 to 4,506 over the past year, according to AAM. But it's unclear whether it can continue converting its readers — and win back the print subscribers it's lost over the years.

Further, ad sales have historically paid the freight for newspapers, subscriptions and newsstand (remember them?) sales have provided a fraction of a paper's revenue. And digital ad revenue, despite efforts by newspapers — oops, sorry, "media companies" — to quell online advertising, lags far behind print ad revenue.

In short, the death spiral of the daily newspaper continues, and the Free Press is no exception.

Free Press publisher **JOE ROSSINI** did not respond to a call seeking comment. ☐



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Legislative Roomies Share Boxed Wine and Political Strategies

BY ALICIA FRESSE

Sam Young, a sensible state representative from the Northwest Kingdom town of Glover, has a history of pulling whimsical stunts such as mowing a Hareford street for a campaign ad. Rep. Matt Trichter, an environmental consultant from Bellows Falls, is serious and bookish. During the four-month legislative session, the two youthful Democrats share a house with Richard Weinstein, a repulsive, silver-haired Republican senator from Lanesville County who is 20 years their senior.

The three politicians were drinking red wine around their kitchen island counter on a Wednesday evening last month, waiting for Young's home-cooked raspberry pie to cool.

"There have been so many policy debates right here," Young said, a repulsive, slapping the counter with both hands foregone.

Most people shun the communal living after college, but Young and his housemates are among the state lawmakers who embrace the arrangement from January to May.

Banking together in Montpelier brings political benefits as well as convenience. It provides opportunities to forge cross-party friendships, strengthen political alliances, refine legislative strategy and develop policy solutions—all away from the public eye. "The walls come down," said Weinstein, who served in the Senate for the last 24 years.

"When you're in this kitchen talking with someone, you can wear the ugly sweat and solve the policy. You don't have to worry about the politics and the 180 other people you have to convince, plus the governor," Trichter added, referring to the legislature.

If he commanded, the Bellows Falls rep would live a five-hour round-trip, or longer in inclement weather. Instead, he uses the legislative housing stipend of \$115 a night four nights a week to pay his share of rent for a handsome yellow house on Liberty Street, about a mile from the Statehouse.

Even members with shorter drives spend some nights in the capital city. So for this session, 119 of the 180 lawmakers have been reimbursed for at least one overnight stay, according to the Agency of Administration. Occasional overnighters often stay at the Capital



Left to right, Legislative Roommates Rep. Sam Young, Rep. Matt Trichter and Sen. Richard Weinstein.

Plaza Hotel & Conference Center—or an occasional couch.

Those who opt for houses tend to shack up with members of the same party and gender. But spending weekdays in the capital does allow for cross-party socializing—dinner parties, bowling nights and long-standing weekly poker game at a location legislators wouldn't discuss.

House Speaker Mitt Johnson (D-South Hero) said that the riskiest "being able to have an informal conversation, where interest groups and, frankly, the media isn't sitting there watching you."

When Johnson and Anne O'Brien, a former rep from Richmond, served on the House Appropriations Committee and lived together, they would get up at 8:30 a.m. and go down to the basement, where one of them would use the elliptical while the other worked out with weights and a yoga ball. "We would spend the whole time talking about how effective is the Green Mountain Care Board being, and are there things we can do to curb health care spending?" Johnson said.

This session, the speaker is living in the same three-bedroom house, which is

owned by a pair of professors who teach in St. Louis, Mo., during the winter. Legislators have rented it for years. Past occupants include former governor Peter Shumlin, who lived there when he served in the Senate.

It is, indisputably, a power-house. Johnson's roomies are Rep. Janet Aspin (D-Colton), who chairs the Ways and Means Committee; Rep. Sarah Copeland Hennes (D-Berlin), the former majority leader; Rep. Kate Webb (D-Shelburne), the former majority whip; and Appropriations Committee member Rep. Diane Lempier (D-Vergennes).

The five women share advice, cook for one another and regularly host other lawmakers for meals. "It's our support structure, because we're all away from our families for four months," said Johnson.

That structure recently withstood serious political strain when Johnson and Copeland Hennes ran against each other for House speaker. Although hard-fought, the race between the longtime friends ended amicably in early February in a pact because they knew they'd be sharing a bathroom come January.

Separate bathrooms are a must for Sen. Clare Ayer (D-Addison) and

Jenette White (D-Windham), who rent a two-bedroom condo from a lobbyist's snowed-out parents.

White is an alternative medicine aficionado and a longtime advocate for legal marijuana. Ayer, a retired nurse who chairs the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, is a self-described "whore-bait, go-to-a-civil-defense, go-poor-chick kind of person" who is unimpressed in her housemate's medicinal herbs.

And while Ayer has the poetic and impeccable outfit of a flight attendant, White often has unruly blond hair and admits to arriving at the Statehouse in "rumpled linen clothes."

After spending nine seasons in the same house, the pair resembles an old married couple. Upon returning to their condo, "We immediately get out of our grown-up clothes," White said, and "plop down with a little glass of whatever we choose that evening." They lift through their e-mails, note the New York Times crosswords together and watch the news.

White might make quinoa for dinner. Ayer usually prepares salad lunches for both of them. White, who was curing a tuna fish sandwich made with heron bread during a midday

POLITICS

interviews, said, "Clearly, she didn't make my lunch today."

Ayer still doesn't see alternative remedies herself, but as the health committee chair, she has shown a willingness to give consideration to nontraditional medicine. Her committee supported a law that allocates money to a pilot program in which chiropractors, acupuncturists and other alternative practitioners treat patients with chronic pain.

When Ayer and White are on the same side of an issue, living together works to their advantage. During the 2003 session, both were strong supporters of legislation enabling terminally ill people to end their lives. Throughout what was one of the most emotional and contentious debates in recent state history, they strategized together, rehearsed speeches and critiqued each other's arguments. The bill passed.

IT'S PAST HIS JAMMIE TIME.

SEN. RICHARD WESTMAN

"There has more political struggle since than I do," White noted.

"We serve as sounding boards for each other," Ayer said.

They've also supported each other through tragedy. After Ayer's husband died unexpectedly during the 2003 session, White "was like another member of the family," Ayer recalled.

Sens. Brian Cavanagh (D-Sutton) and Clark Sears (D-Barnes) have also forged a political alliance during the two years they've lived together. This session, they're sharing a two-bedroom town house.

"We're a odd couple," said Sears, with a wink of a smile. The 78-year-old has served in the Senate since 1993, gaining influence and a reputation for gruffness.

While Sears spends his free time following football and baseball, Cavanagh, 46, prefers painting landscapes and horseback riding. Despite their different interests, they've become good friends.

The younger lawmaker stayed at the Capital Plaza Hotel during his two terms in the House. After Cavanagh was elected to the Senate in 2004, Sears invited his new subordinate to become his housemate.

Cavanagh considers Sears a mentor. As a gay man, Cavanagh especially admires the senior senator's role in passing the state's civil union legislation, which, he said, "changed my life."

Backlogs in the townhouse are all about Housepage County "That PSDA stuff has really dominated our conversation, quite frankly," Sears said, referring to a chemical discovered in groundwater

there. "It's our Fluor, Mich," in addition to strategizing about how to address water contamination in their district, they've been working on a bill to slow local businesses to serve alcohol — a request put to them by a Housenpage theater.

Living together, they noted, makes it easier to pick up the work of responding to constituents.

Also, Sears said, "We share a little group every now and then."

Rep. Joey Donovan (D-Burlington) and Rep. Alice Miller (D-Shelburne) don't have any territory in common, they often teach each other's districts — among other things.

"Last night I had to hear all about the births of six children," said Miller, with exaggerated disgust. Earlier that day the House had debated a resolution in support of Roe v. Wade, which prompted Donovan, a pro-choice Irish Catholic, to reflect on the agony of childbirth. (Vermont's new attorney general, T.J. Donovan, is one of her children.)

"The good thing about living with Alice Miller is, the way that to eternal salvation," Donovan said back, suggesting that God will reward her for tolerating her housemate. Donovan started rooming with Miller after her husband died in 2006.

The women, who both worked in education and are retired, rent a small white cape up the street from the House speaker's rental. Upstairs, Miller's master bedroom is pristine, whereas the Burlington rep's is strewn with clothes. Downstairs, a neatly dining room and living room look unmade. Miller and Donovan prefer the cozy TV room, where they drink hard wine, watch CNN and rib each other relentlessly.

They are completely incompatible — Miller wakes up at 3:30 a.m., Donovan is schematically anti-cooking — and as close as sisters.

The Liberty Street crew also keeps very different hours, a fact they make clear that Wednesday evening:

"I just hit pause time," Westman said, referring to Twitter, and counting all three to go.

"I am usually the person who's in my pajamas in bed reading a book by 7 p.m.," Trubler admitted.

Living together, like politics, requires finding common ground. For this unlikely trio, that happens to be the music. And

They host an annual concert at their house. "Rock is the premier night of the year," said Westman. Lawnmowers from all parties are welcome. The only requirement is that they not sit and sing along with the show. "If you watch Matt sing first, you can't not love him," said Westman. ☺

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Airport's Actions Prompt Push to Reexamine Its Governance

BY HOLLY WALSH

Snow blanketed the trees across the street from Burlington International Airport last Friday. The sylvan stretch of open land resembles a park, but it's actually the ghost of a neighborhood that was nixed under a controversial airport noise-reduction program that has taken 100 homes. Continuing lawsuits have led some to question whether Vermont's largest airport is in the right hands.

The City of Burlington owns and manages the airport, even though its 950 acres are located in South Burlington. Burlington has operated it since not long after the first plane landed in 1920 on a former conflict three miles from downtown Burlington.

With leadership from aviation buffs and Burlington business potentates, the fledgling enterprise grew and grew. Now Burlington is the largest property owner in South Burlington, and roughly 500,000 passengers fly in and out of the airport annually.

But tensions have grown, and not just from the lawsuits. A dispute over the property taxes Burlington pays as neighbor for the airport spawned a lawsuit that was just settled last year. And many people in South Burlington are worried about the arrival in 2015 or 2020 of only 7-35 jets at the airport's Vermont Air National Guard facility.

Some South Burlington residents and leaders are fed up with taking orders from Burlington about the airport and adjacent property. While the Burlington City Council has voted on issues related to the buyouts, the South Burlington council has no vote, for example.

Earlier this month, South Burlington Councillor Tom Chittenden introduced a resolution that would ask Gov. Phil Scott to form a committee to examine the viability of shifting airport ownership to the state.

The proposal also calls for meeting a 10-member airport commission with six members appointed by the governor and one member each to represent Burlington, South Burlington, Winooski, Williston, Shelburne, Essex and Colchester. The current airport commission has a slot for a South Burlington resident, but the four other seats are Burlington's.

The airport is a regional economic engine controlled by just one city, and it's no wonder the arrangement is



A passenger plane at Burlington International Airport.

problematic, said Chittenden. "This is the root of a lot of our conflict and strife," he said.

The South Burlington City Council will discuss the proposed resolution February 21.

We lost six or seven of the complaints that are generating this, that Burlington pledged to end the home buyout program but couldn't do with little notice last fall, that airport staff obstruct the flow of information from the Federal Aviation Administration to South Burlington, and that the buyout program is eating a hole in South Burlington's affordable housing stock.

Burlington Mayor Miss Weinberger has seen the resolution. He's not a fan.

"The City of Burlington has stewarded this institution for decades and decades, and we've done it at some financial risk," Weinberger said during an interview.

There would need to be a clear and compelling case to change the governance, and it's not there, he added. "I think the airport is a success story," Weinberger said. "I think it's a real asset to the region."

RTV is the only municipally owned commercial airport in Vermont but certainly not the sole one in the United States. Cities own some of the largest airports in the country, including O'Hare International in Chicago. But many airports have outgrown city or town ownership and are now operated by regional governments, county authorities or states.

In 2012, when Weinberger was first elected mayor, the airport was struggling with expenses and debts. A committee formed to look at options, including transferring ownership to the state or a regional group.

The idea didn't go anywhere. That's partly because city leaders weren't ready to let the airport go, but also because other communities did not seem eager to take on any of the financial risk of shared ownership. "There wasn't a lot of enthusiasm," Weinberger said.

Passenger traffic and parking garages have slumped at RTV since the \$200 million dollar has weakened and Fletcher International Airport is increasingly competitive. In fiscal year 2009, the airport's operating revenue dropped 2 percent, largely due to continued

loss of income at the garage. The hefty grant revenue that RTV gets from the Federal Aviation Administration and other sources helped the airport close a gap of \$1.2 million between its operating revenues and expenses last year.

Tighter fiscal controls over the past five years have helped turn around RTV's financial health and improve the airport's bond rating in the process. As Weinberger sees it, the airport is in solid shape. It's assessed at \$32 million. Burlington would need compensation for a transfer of ownership, Weinberger said.

The mayor concedes that Burlington and South Burlington have had "some recent tough issues" involving the airport. "We are in a time of some tension," he allowed.

But Weinberger insists the new round of home buyouts will be the last.

"We are going to bring the buyout program to a conclusion," Weinberger said. "I want to see it over."

He and airport director of aviation Gabe Richards have made similar pledges before — but have not followed through, adding to tensions.

Not all of South Burlington's city councilors are convinced that a governance change is the solution.

"My initial reaction to this would take a lot of investigating," said Councillor Pat Nowak, who is South Burlington's representative to the airport commission.

She has not taken a position on the resolution but said she has concerns. "There are so many pieces," Nowak said. "Does Burlington want to sell? Does the state want to take it over? Is there interest in the region to do this?"

Nowak voted to authorize more home donations last May at an airport commission meeting. Her critics claim she failed to communicate the scope of the program to her fellow councilors and constituents.

She disputes that she kept anything from anyone and says critics misinterpreted her vote.

During a January 23 council meeting, South Burlington patent lawyer and social justice activist James Marc Lutz challenged Nowak about what she knew and when she knew it on the new home buyouts. In the wake of that verbal skirmish, Lutz decided to run against Nowak

IT SEEMS LIKE
SOMEBODY
HAS PLANS
FOR SOUTH
BURLINGTON
WITHOUT
CONSULTING
SOUTH
BURLINGTON.

JAMES MARC LUTZ

in the March 7 election. The airport is a big part of his campaign.

Leah has proposed that South Burlington enact a home "replacement tax" that would require Burlington to pay a fee for every home it demolishes around the airport. Burlington, he points out, has a similar program to discourage gentrification through tax breaks.

Leah compares the South Burlington home buyers to the urban renewal dealmakers that erased most of Burlington's Little Italy neighborhood in the 1960s.

It's time for South Burlington to assert itself, according to Leah.

"It seems like somebody has plans for South Burlington without consulting South Burlington," he said. "You know, we're not a colony. We're our own city, and we should have some say over it."

Leah is not, however, a fan of the change-in-governance resolution. That's partly because he believes it would be easier to press Burlington to

himself spent 15 years as a Republican state lawmaker.

A few decades ago, Vermont agreed to take over small airports around the state that were failing, including ones in Rutland, Newport and Shrewsbury. Some lost money for a while, but federally funded improvements and higher fees helped turn them around. Today, eight of the 10 state airports are operating in the black, according to Guy Roselle, aviation program administrator at the Vermont

Transportation Agency.

Rickle noted that STV's finances would affect any discussion.

"I don't think Burlington is interested in giving up ownership," she said. "I say that because I believe at the moment the airport isn't a drain on finances."

If that changed, she added, "Then maybe Burlington would say, 'Well, maybe we should think about sharing that cost center with the rest of the region,'" Rickle said.

She asserted that airport aviation director Richards, a Weinberger appointee, has not worked well with South Burlington.

"His job with the community, the best city, has been really lacking," Rickle said. "I don't think he provides the kind of meaningful and sincere attention and recognition of some of the community issues."

Richards defends his management. One could argue that the city has a proven track record of managing and growing the airport, while the state has never managed an air facility anywhere near as large or complex, he said.

Change would present many unknowns, Richards continued. "It would be taking an asset that Burlington has invested in for a hundred years and just turning it over to somebody, not knowing where we're going."

What's the state's position? Gov Scott isn't pushing for a state takeover of the airport, at least right now. The governor "tells the City of Burlington it is doing an incredible job managing the airport, and the city has made no indication it's interested in selling the asset," according to his communications director, Rebecca Kelley.

And, for now, it's not clear whether the South Burlington council resolution will be passed. "The state doesn't own it," said Roselle about the airport. "It's not really our place to get involved unless asked." ☐

Contact me@seventeenth.com

PHOTO: Steve Richards



do something about jet noise than it would be the state. It'd also be easier to sue Burlington than the state over F-35 noise, he said.

The real issue, he said, is the F-35 and the military-commercial nature of the airport. The powerful jets are too noisy and dangerous for a dense population area, and Burlington should be opposing the jets and helping the Air Guard find another location "far away from people," Leah said.

Rickle's not the only one who is skeptical about a change in governance.

Ellen Riehl, chair of the South Burlington City Council, also believes the F-35 noise is the real problem at the airport and that having a different owner wouldn't necessarily address that. But she's open to the discussion.

"I'm not ready to say whether I think it's a great idea or not," she said. "I can see some possible good outcomes, but I also can see the potential for really no change."

It would be a long road to a takeover in the legislature, predicted Rickle, who

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After Fighting for Refugees, Louras Battles to Remain Rutland's Mayor

BY MARK DAVIS

Rutland Mayor Chris Louras stepped onto a walk-out inside The Bakery on West Street to address a crowd of people who had gathered for his campaign launch. The place was full of supporters and representatives from half a dozen municipalities, who turned out on the first Monday night in February for the first "kickoff" he's organized since leading the top job a decade ago.

Drawn to a sharp suit that hangs a little loose on his lean frame, Louras delivered a 20-minute speech that noted the increasing number of businesses that had opened downtown in recent years, a drop in many categories of crime and the elimination of a \$5 million budget deficit that he faced when he took office 10 years ago.

But he only alluded to the issue that has divided Rutland for the past year: whether the city should become a home for 300 Syrian refugees.

"This community is being judged, we're being assessed, and we're being defined by how we respond to what's happening around us externally and internationally," Louras said to the crowd. "Like it or not, we're being watched."

He was more explicit the next morning during an interview in his office.

"I've been on the 600 at 2 a.m.," he said. "You can't get up and deal with it and then hide from it. It's coming at it. It's the right thing to do, as I said time and again, from a humanitarian perspective, and we need the benefits of a diverse culture and the economic benefits that refugee resettlement brings."

Last year, Louras launched a plan to bring the refugees from war-torn Syria to Rutland, with a pledge to welcome them for years to come.

He stood by the controversial decision, which many critics characterized as unilateral. Reporters from across the state and country descended on the city to document the well-known mayor's arguments for diversity against criticism — a criticism of the national ideal.

After months of conflict, in September Louras appeared to have scored a lopsided victory when the U.S. State Department announced that Rutland had been approved as a resettlement site and would begin accepting refugees. Twelve hours arrived last month.

Ten days after the second group arrived, President Donald Trump asked his executive order asking to bar refugees from entering the country. While the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit blocked the federal action, Trump's effort



LOURAS ACKNOWLEDGES HE IS FACING HIS STRONGEST CHALLENGE SINCE 2007, WHEN HE WON THE FIRST OF FIVE TWO-YEAR TERMS.

to turn away refugees has — at least for now — effectively halted additional resettlement in Rutland.

Now Louras finds himself trying to hang on to a job he knows after having

emerged a visible part of his community — and he has almost nothing to show for it. The mayor acknowledges he is facing his strongest challenge since 2007, when he won the first of five two-year terms.

A Louras victory on Terms Monday Day would be seen as an affirmation of his progressive stance. His defeat, on the other hand, would add much to injury for him and the next mayor to sports it.

Louras, his opponents and many Rutland residents would like to believe that next month's municipal contest isn't a referendum on the refugee issue. After months of divisive and sometimes heated debate and national media attention, residents weary of the conflict.

"There are a lot of things happening in this city. It's not just the refugees," Rutland assistant Dennis DeLuca said at the kickoff. Rutland remains focused on efforts to arrive in downtown business district. The fight against a related crime is ongoing. And Louras' proposal to reduce the number of active firefighters per shift has rattled the union's leaders.

"Chris Louras has been in office 10 years," DeLuca said. "The people aren't just focusing on one issue."

But it's not a coincidence that Louras faces three opponents — all Republicans — in his campaign with his refugee resettlement plan. Louras left the Vermont GOP last year to become an independent.

Vermont alderman David Allaire, a sales manager for Interstate Motors, is taking his third shot at ousting Louras. Allaire has become the mayor's chief antagonist on refugee resettlement and most other issues. The men barely hide their disdain for each other.

Although Allaire has always insisted he is not anti-refugee, he led the charge to investigate whether Louras broke any laws in his handling of the proposal. "We've had a difficult time getting any information from the mayor's office or the refugee resettlement folks. It seems to be all cloak and dagger, behind the scenes," he said in an interview.

Allaire also asked Rutland police to inquire whether refugees would represent a public safety threat, and he called on Louras to put the refugee resettlement plan to a citywide vote.

"I'm not a fan of this program by any means," said Allaire. "I have as much sympathy and empathy for refugees as anyone. The majority of people, if presented with this issue in an open and transparent way, would have climbed aboard, and you wouldn't have seen this divide in the city."

Real candidate Mike Coughlin is trying to split the difference between Louras and Allaire. The longtime head of the Downtown Rutland Partnership, a marketing organization, Coughlin says he has history obliging groups together to better the city. His says he would be able to move Rutland beyond the Louras versus Allaire battle.

"There is as much bad blood between these two cities — and we all know it is — as there is snow on, and I don't think the city can do itself with these two playing a role," Coughlin said. "It's been a trauma, and people are tired of it."

Coughlin, a former alderman, said he supported the idea of accepting 300 refugees but did not believe the city could

have handled any more in future years, as Laurus wanted. He also criticized Laurus for being sensitive about the refuge plan.

The fourth candidate, personnel officer Ken Johnston, said he would not support a refuge plan that had been "sound down the community's throat."

A government transparency advocate, Johnston has found his various campaigns on pledges to make city records and government meetings more open to the public. In 2010, Johnston ran unsuccessfully for mayor, auditor and alderman — at the same time. This year, Johnston, a former computer trainer who is currently unemployed, again filed for those three positions, plus a seat on the school board.

If religious sentiment in Rutland has faded, here's what's next.



Matt Christopher



David Albino

On February 6, the board of aldermen lowered through its agenda during a sleepy meeting. They heard a pitch to fund a new dog park, get an update on a retraining pool renovation and seemed ready to adjourn when Alderman Scott Yamada spoke up.

Months earlier, the board had sent a letter to the State Department requesting information about internal procedures for selecting refuge resettlement sites that the board had received only a token response.

In a fit, matter-of-fact voice, Yamada suggested that a second letter should be sent to the feds.

"To what end?" Alderman Christopher Kline asked. "What are we hoping to achieve?"

Yamada responded: "It goes to all the questions we had before that remain unanswered."

Albino quickly seconded Yamada's motion. The city's attorney said he would begin work on a letter.

Although he did not attend the meeting, Laurus gleefully laughed Albino the next morning.

"If he wanted to lead the community that would have been the opportunity for him to lead and say, 'We need to look forward and not back,'" Laurus said. "That was his opportunity as a leader, and he failed. There are some ... aldermen who ... want to lead the fumes?"

Asked for a response, Albino objected. "That is certainly not leading the fumes," he said over the phone. "I want to bring the community together, and you do that through openness and information, and right now there is a lack of information, I believe I'm leading."

Laurus tried to sound a diplomatic tone when answering criticisms about the creation process by which he pursued his refuge plan. For months, he contended that he could have handled it better, while noting that Rutland is one of the few communities in Vermont with a strong-squar force of government, which gives him wide latitude to make decisions.

But he's apparently done with civility. In private, Laurus has long exhibited two personas. He utters a lot of "politeness" and "open-mindedness," like a doll in a 1960s sitcom. But, in the next breath, he can unleash a stream of profanity that would expose a doll's secret.

"We're this close," he told a seven days reporter last week. "Complaining about process is the last refuge of scoundrels. You can't oppose the process and oppose the program without opposing the people whose lives are affected," he translated. "Those who do so actually have a problem with the refugees."

Laurus might never get a chance to prove his theory that New Americans are precisely what Rutland needs. The city's population has fallen steadily — 100 residents a year since 2000. Area employers complain they cannot find enough qualified workers. Young professionals routinely tell surveys that they want to live in communities with diverse populations, according to Laurus.

As a result of his efforts, Rutland is slightly less homogeneous — and, as Laurus would argue, much more human. "The white-flight legend where I want the families here to live," he said of the two Syrian families who made it to Rutland before the door closed shut. "Stop personal or political cost I mean it will spend. We saved some lives when others are leaving their backs." ☐

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our state's public education system. Yet, as dictated in recent budget plans, health seems less than keen on support.

Secondly, Scott contradicted himself by saying he wants to focus on economic issues — a central premise in his campaign. Legislation in without a doubt an economic issue. For example, Colorado's steel industry is approaching a billion dollars annually this year. I believe Vermont should follow suit and pursue legislation to help spur growth and jobs.

It's high time to move the necessary steps from committee. I urge my fellow Vermonters to call the governor's office to support commonsense legislation.

Oliver Bart
SURLINGTON

ONE FOR THE 'D-O-D' LIST

Ah, it's that time of year when articles appear with information and lists for couples navigating from "Will you marry me?" to "I do" [How to Get Hitched]. February 2].

The two things that make a marriage legal — license and officiant — are usually relegated to bullet points. (Does I mention that there are also often small percentages of a wedding's budget? The license is usually a simple logistical matter. But finding and working with an officiant can be more complicated, especially if a couple wants to use a minister even if they otherwise have no ties to a faith community. (Remember, I've heard outside, "It's so pretty historical," "We have to keep Grandma happy") But there, a little additional guidance can help.

First, don't wait until the four-to-six-week mark to start looking for a minister or religious figure (if that's what "faithful details" means in the list). No, make contact ASAP; most ministers have full calendars weeks and months out.

Then, ask about both tradition and contemporary practices. Some let you mix your own and bring in your officiant; others expect the wedding minister to officiate and/or have oversight. Are there policies about decorum and music? Cutting out "God talk" may not be an option. There may be expectations for presiding counseling sessions in addition to planning the service.

I've been privileged to be part of some lovely weddings. I also have my share of horror stories. A little more attention to working with churches and ministers is otherwise commercially oriented articles neglect space on ministers' beliefs and conflicts.

Ann Larsen
ELIZABETH

Larsen is a retired Lutheran pastor.

OFFENSIVE INSERT

While perusing the ad insert from Hanger Museum Group contained in the January 30 issue, another issue I fell onto the floor. I picked it up. I looked at it. I looked again, because surely my eyes had deceived me the first two times. A third time, and my stomach lurched. I felt physically ill. It was a phrase, *deceptive insert from Right to Life*. The fact that you chose to accept advertising money from an organization whose sole purpose is to attempt to intimidate and deceive is shocking.

I imagine you'll respond with the standard line about how you don't edit/withdraw regarding advertisers, etc. If so, let this

toxic woman interrupt. That excuse is irrelevant, outdated and disgusting.

I expect much more insight and sensitivity when I read News Days.

Suzanna Kaye
CAROT

HIGHER WAGE TO FIX 'AFFORDABILITY'

Thanks for the "Affordability" article [January 11]. It brought to light that the problem with affordability in Vermont is a problem with low wages and high living costs. The Wall Street Journal has focus on "income" issues and low population growth. But Auditor Steve Huffer, the Public Assets Institute, Rights & Democracy, and Sen. Tim Ashe show that steering the government toward the solution for struggling low- and moderate-income people.

It reminds me of when we organized a union at the Burlington Free Press in 1990 and showed that workers were being underpaid, especially compared to what the company was making, and company managers responded: "What does that make have to do with what we pay you?"

Until Vermonters fully share in the wealth they create and are paid fair wages, we'll always have an affordability problem. We can start with raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, so US Sen. Bernie Sanders has proposed. We can consider Perleford, Groch approach to limit the difference between the highest and lowest paid workers in a company. And we can take to heart what Franklin D. Roosevelt said in support of the minimum wage: "No business which depends for existence on paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in this country.... By living wages, I mean more than the bare subsistence level — I mean the wages of a decent

living." Let's start by raising the minimum wage.

Gene Bergman
BURLINGTON

CONFESSIONS OF A FORMER USER

Thank you for your coverage of opioid addiction and its victims ["Death by Drugs," January 15]. I moved here four years ago in a way to escape the vice grip of heroin in Connecticut, and I want to share my story. I love this area, and I love that it people care enough to want to attack this issue.

I spent a great deal of my teenage years sobering up, and I can say that the old adage "Honesty is the best policy" simply couldn't be true. It's hard, because to be honest as an addict often means giving up those last glimmers of pride and dignity you are holding tightly that don't allow your shame to hinder your recovery. Use your support system and be honest with them and with yourself. I promise that you will feel a weight lift. At the end of the day, your loved ones and those working in professional capacities just want to see you get better.

Think about the things you want to do in life, and do them. Don't allow yourself to wallow in recovery. Activity and success are great treatments of relapse, as is honesty.

To those who know people who are struggling, the previous advice holds for you. Honesty = recovery. It. Turning a blind eye because it's uncomfortable solves nothing. Keep it, be direct and let the person who is struggling know you are there for them.

I hope everyone struggling right now finds these points.

Daniel Zander
SOUTH BURLINGTON

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Fahes Ahmed, 16, with her husband, Ahmad Ahmed, at their home in Portland.

Vermonters Visit Muslim Canadian Family Turned Back at Border

Her husband and neurologist Andy Salamoun and his family had participated in marches in Washington, D.C., and Montpelier, visited their elected officials, and tried to find assembly ways to persuade to recent events to protect President Barack Obama's administration.

They were in a meeting about what to do next when Salamoun was a report from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation that left him agast.

Fahes Ahmed, a 16-year-old Canadian Muslim who is Muslim, her husband and his adult cousin were turned away at the border last week as they tried to go on a shopping trip to Burlington. Ahmed's parents live in Chicago, and she visited the U.S. in an event on a news program. But Ahmed's border guards inspected her telephone, searched her about Trump and his family — and then wouldn't allow her in the country after she wanted to see her father's high school in Springfield, she told the CBC.

The children's play



Salamoun's mother's been moved by the story of neighbors helping neighbors. He figured that some fellowship should extend to his family.

"Salamoun is just as much our neighbor," Salamoun told Seven Days. "It felt like somebody had treated me badly. It felt like somebody seeing me would do something for me." Salamoun's husband and the CBC had eventually made a contact with Ahmed and her family.

Then on Saturday Salamoun's wife and their two children drove up to Abdul's home in Concord in Montreal's suburbs. The visit lasted about six hours. The families drank tea and ate. Salamoun is a neurologist, the children played together. "They felt like at the end of it," Salamoun said, "I was just regular people talking. We were there to say 'Hi, we're from Vermont, and we're sorry about what happened and we wanted you to know that.'"

MARK DAVIS

Scott Administration Opposes Vermont Marijuana Legalization Bill



Gov. Phil Scott's administration came out Thursday firmly against a marijuana legalization bill that has sparked interest in the House.

"We oppose this bill," Vermont State Police Major Glenn Hall told the House Judiciary Committee. "We" as it turns out, isn't necessarily the state police but the governor's entire administration.

"We speak with one voice," said Public Safety Commissioner Tom Anderson. "That's what the governor stands for also."

Hall's comment represented a shift from Scott's own "I'm really excited Republican governor has not endorsed legislation, but he hasn't explicitly come out against it, either."

Hall was more explicit. He told the House Judiciary Committee that the legislation proposed, based on a law in Washington, D.C., "creates serious public safety concerns" and is "largely unenforceable."



John Walters

Walters: Lawmakers Befeuddled by Mental Health System

A routine budget hearing before the Vermont Senate Appropriations Committee Thursday was sidetracked by one seemingly intractable problem: what to do about the state's troubled mental health care system.

Human Services Secretary John Walters presented his agency's fiscal year 2018 budget and got on the way to the seventh hour before the hearing started.

Gabriel and the assembled senators were fully aware that designated agencies — whether emergency response teams that provide mental health substance abuse and disability-related services or under contract with the state of Vermont — were woefully underfunded and on the brink of collapse. Wages for designated agency staffers have been essentially stagnant for years, leading to chronic recruitment problems and a shockingly high staff turnover rate — 27.5

The committee is considering a bill that would let state possession of up to two ounces of harvested marijuana, two mature plants and seven immature plants. The bill would not legalize sale or public use of the drug.

"Two ounces of marijuana, we feel, is a significant quantity," Hall said. "It's like a significant jump when you go from no marijuana to legalization."

Committee chair Hattie Sand (D-Hartford) said after the meeting that her committee would discuss whether to reduce the amount of marijuana that would be legal.

Scott, meanwhile, left the door open to the possibility of legislation in committee's final day. His spokeswoman, Patricia Kelley, said Friday that the governor is willing to review any legislation that the legislature sends him.

"Questions to be answered include a sufficient ability to measure impairment for highway safety, and better understanding impacts on public health," she said.

TERRE HALL/INVOICE

present annually for the past three years, according to a white paper from Vermont Care Partners, a network of the state's designated agencies.

"The system is in crisis," said committee chair Jane Belcher (D-Colchester). She then pondered whether Vermont truly has a "system" at all or just disconnected pieces of one. "We aren't in a position to evaluate the system and make recommendations," she continued. But in a remarkable statement coming from a 12-year senator who previously served as Human Services secretary.

If anyone with her credentials can't evaluate the system, and he'll measure a system needs, there's no trouble.

JOHN WALTERS



lifelines

OBITUARIES VOWS
CELEBRATIONS



IN MEMORIAM

Gary Feingold

February 16, 2012 marks the fifth birthday of a truly extraordinary human being named Gary Feingold. Gary lives in Vermont and is the son of a very person lucky to know him.

A classic misanthrope, Gary possesses many talents and a brilliant intellect. He is a photographer, a filmmaker, a person of the arts and a lover of knowledge. He is a philosopher and scholar who was awarded his Juris Doctor degree from Cardozo School of Law in New York City then admitted and sworn in as an attorney and clerk/master of law of the Honorable Supreme Court of the State of Vermont. With an IQ of 180, Gary is also a member of Mensa and a very fierce competitor at Trivial Pursuit.

Gary is an adventurer and world traveler. Born in Munich Germany, he spent his formative years in Switzerland and France. He traveled extensively throughout Europe and Africa and took his family on many Caribbean vacations to scuba dive, jet ski and picnic, among other fun pursuits. But of all the countries Gary has been to he loves the United States of America most of all. Some

of Gary's fondest memories are of traveling to great American national parks. His adventures will find down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. He also journeyed across the country on his Victory Cross Roads Classic motorcycle, traveling through Yellowstone National Park and seeing the Iron Horse, award by riding a grueling 1,000 miles in just 24 hours. A true patriot, Gary loves America, its freedoms and deeply respects and appreciates those who serve and those who throughout history have fought for our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

As a businessman and entrepreneur, Gary is very successful. For nearly 30 years, he's owned Howell Lumber, a thriving building supply in New Jersey. During his 23 years living happily in Vermont, Gary owned and invented several prosperous local businesses, as well as achieved multiple success in real estate ventures. As a result of his business savvy and success, Gary is and always has been an outstanding provider for his family. As a father and a husband he has, amongst his wife and his daughter, been able to live comfortably and in security because

of his unremitting love, generosity and hard work.

Gary's loving kindness extended not only to his family and friends but also to total strangers. One of his favorite things to do was to walk the dog down Church Street and strike up conversations with the locals. Because he's so full of life and quick with a joke, everyone he meets immediately falls in love with him.

Some of the most valuable friendships Gary has made in Vermont are with his beloved polar buddies. Gary is a very skilled and playful and because of his warm and likable nature, he has managed to make very close friends at the polar table even while taking everyone's money. Gary is also a long-time member of the Burlington Bridge Club. He is so cradled as a Life Master by the American Contract Bridge League for his outstanding achievement in bridge competition.

During competition, including watching and participating in sports, he's always been one of Gary's favorite pastimes. A classmate of famous Gary as well as one of the Green Bay Packers as well as an official stockholder. He has also been a loyal fan of the Lakers and the Dodgers for more than 50 years. Throughout his life his personality is marked by his (mis)adventures, along and target shooting. An avid golfer, Gary achieved the national record and highly coveted Double Eagle. He also proudly traveled all around Vermont to watch his daughter compete in high school sports given several family members a game, watch or loan.

The world is a better place because of Gary Feingold's existence. He is forever grateful for his integrity, his guidance, his advice, his contributions and his endless capacity for loving.

Happy birthday, Dad. You are my inspiration.



OBITUARIES

Paul LaBrusciano 1946-2012 CINCINNATI

Paul Martin LaBrusciano (Paulie Nard) passed away on February 5, 2012 in Cincinnati, IN. Paul was born on April 23, 1946 in Manhattan, N.Y. He attended Horace Mann High School and the Community School in Montpelier, VT, from which he graduated as valedictorian in 1964.

Paul loved music and was seen by many as being at the forefront of the U.S. influx of reggae in the late 1970s. During the 80s, he was a radio DJ on WJWL and WGBR, a club DJ at the Border Town Club (Middletown) in Burlington,

and worked for many years at Pats Pop selling records. He also played in groups in several bands, including Lambis (Green) and Pounding Systems—who played at the legendary Mount Ragga Festival in North Beach in Burlington and shared the stage with many reggae greats such as Third World, Iwan Mikkelsen and Aswad. During this time, he introduced many Burlington residents to the sounds of dancehall reggae and his influence can still be felt today in a vibrant reggae culture that has endured for many decades. In the '90s, his love of music brought him to New York where he worked at Eight Ball Records in Manhattan and later cofounded Music Ambassador, an importer and distributor of reggae music on 7-inch 45 records from Jamaica. Paul and Music Ambassador went on

to enjoy more than 10 years of visiting reggae labels and retail stores from around the globe.

He was a devoted culinary artist who recently offered his unbridled opinion on Vermont local cuisine and he was truly loved in his role as manager of the Coast High School cafeteria, where when he lived in New York, he often chose to New Haven for the better pizza.

In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing with his family and friends and spending family time in his backyard jungle of crime films and reggae in tropical. Paul also had a great love for baseball. His passion for the sport developed during his childhood in Westfield as a member of the Little League All-Star team. Later he was on and from the New York Yankees and finally he was a passionate coach and referee for the local Burlington leagues.

He is survived by his wife, Doree LaBrusciano of Burlington. His sons, Nico and Lorenzo of Burlington; his parents, Sam LaBrusciano of Marlboro and Catherine Obrecht of Westfield; and his siblings, brother Christopher LaBrusciano of Colton, sister Anne LaBrusciano of Marlboro and brother Peter LaBrusciano of Brooklyn, NY. A memorial will be held in summer.

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Pulitzer Winner Richard Ford Talks About Memoir, Characters and Trump

BY THOMAS CHRISTOPHER GREENE

Ever since the publication of his novel *The Sportsman* in 1994, Richard Ford has been widely recognized as one of America's leading writers. That reputation was cemented forever when *Independence Day* became, in 1996, the first novel to win both the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Woolfshire Award. He is the author of more than 10 books, including his debut collection, *Between Them*, *Remembering My Parents*, coming in May.

On Friday, February 14, at an event that will be a fundraiser for the *Wilmington Book Festival*, Ford will make his first Vermont appearance and read from the new book, after which I will interview him onstage. We caught up recently by email in a preview of that conversation.

SEVEN DAYS: Since I am a novelist and not a journalist, I can say that I have been a huge fan of yours for a long time, and your fiction has had a great influence on my own work. I still remember when I was an undergraduate hastily taking my steps toward becoming a writer, one of my professors pressing a copy of *Rock Springs* into my hands after a class and saying to me, "Read this. This is as close to perfection as stories can come." And he was right. Now, after decades of producing some of the most important fiction in America, you are publishing a memoir. Why this book now? And why this memoir form?

RICHARD FORD: As you know, "why" is always a difficult question when it comes to accounting for the origins of some piece of writing. [Unsure?] Eco, in his *Open Work* interview, said that "these things we cannot theorize about, we must mope." So, regarding "why" a memoir, there was never a thought of any other form. I didn't choose against using the material as a story or a novel. Of course I *did* choose, but it wasn't a choice of not doing something, but of doing something.

I wrote a letter last autumn in which I tried to account for this question. Naturally, retrospect makes everything clearer (and probably corrupts the much as much as revealing it). In the letter, I wrote that my parents were such "small" people that it seemed to me their actuality could only be represented by the facts. As if they stretched plausibility to its reasonable subject. And as though the machinery of a novel, and the effort required to establish that initial plausibility, were just too ponderous and given to misrepresentation. I do kinds believe that (though it may also not be at all true).

The form those two means take — their diction, their arcs, their details, their intellectual destinations — all these do seem to me commensurate with who my own parents were. But differently, fiction inevitably entails some kind of irony or other I didn't want (even if I wanted level-headed sincerity. Because ultimately I also wrote two measures of my parents because I loved them and missed them — miss them to this moment).

SD: You are probably most known for creating one of the great sadistic characters in modern

American fiction in Frank Bascombe. Many writers I know — myself included — can barely look at our past work once it is finished and we are done doing public readings from it. Did you know when you finished *The Sportsman* that you would return again and again to Frank?

FORD: I did not know that. The Sportsman was the third novel I'd written — after two books nobody'd much bothered to read. When I wrote it, I was concentrating hard on first book and first book only — because my agent had advised me that if *The Sportsman* wasn't a success with readers, I was "trued." Her word. Very attention-grabbing. Up to and even beyond that, I was a writer who wrote "one book, then one book, then one book." A grander scheme than that had never occurred to me and seemed more ambitious than I was.

I only, in a way, "looked" into writing a connected book — which became *Independence Day*. Again, I wanted to write a single novel, this one about a man who takes his imagination to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Only, when I began collecting notes for this novel, all my notes were in Frank Bascombe's voice. And even though I warned with myself, trying to speak such an insipid, which seemed potentially disastrous to me and overreaching, I finally realized that knowing in advance how a book would sound, who would tell it, where its locales and concerns were, and — importantly — knowing where a cohort of readers might be found, I just decided I was looking a gift horse in the mouth, and only rewrites did that.

SD: One of the things that sets you apart from other major writers of our time is that you are hard to pin down. I suggest [jokes] you'd like to be a compass. In that you are both adept in the short form and the small novella, and in the big, sweeping themes that some of your larger novels capture. You're also equally at home on the vast plains of *Mykara* and in the confined suburbs of *New Jersey*. I'm curious about your decision tree when you sit down to write: Do you start with form — this is going to be a short story or a novel — and then move to place? Or do characters determine the rest?

FORD: I've chosen left a notebook, and generally it's formless — now many — notebooks that pretty much everything I write originates. I just trust that if I go looking for something to write, I'll find it there. However, the decision to choose a form — a novel or a novella or a short story — seems unrelated to subject matter or topic or theme or raw material. I simply choose the form for which I feel I have adequate strength. A novel always starts as a novel (because I've judged myself capable). Likewise

[with] other forms. For me, who, after all, is doing the actual writing, characters don't determine anything. I determine everything. Characters, as do all the other formal aspects of what I write — they all do what I tell them to.

SD: I'm writing you from Washington, D.C., where 15,000 writers are attending the Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference. The mood is a little surreal, and the running joke is that we should enjoy this one since, six months from now, this might be an illegal gathering. Do you have thoughts on the role of fiction writers in the age of Trump? Or are our jobs the same as they've always been?

FORD: To let "the age of Trump" — which, who knows, could be blessedly brief and even abruptly — offer any more life than the same kind of raw material that public life always provides — is to concede for too much of our sovereignty. Some people will write about Trump; others will severely close register his. His advent does not change the basic artistic freedom that Jimmy Carter referred to when he wrote that the terrible world of art is free selection. We choose what we write. Donald Trump tries to insist to what I write about as much as Donald Duck.

Thomas Christopher Greene is the founding president of Vermont College of Fine Arts and the author of five novels, most recently *1111 Fugate Way*. ☺

INFO

Between Them: Remembering My Parents by Richard Ford. 190 pages. \$25.99. Ford will read from his memoir and participate in a question-and-answer session with Thomas Christopher Greene on Friday, February 24, 7:00 p.m., at the Silver Maple Ballroom, Davis Center, University of Vermont, in Burlington. \$10 advance; \$15 at the door. www.burlingtonbookfestival.com



Richard Ford

BOOKS

Woodstock's Newest Cultural Event Celebrates Playwrights of Color

BY JACQUELINE LAWLER

Next weekend, Woodstock-based theater company JAG Productions will present JAGfest, a four-day new-play festival with a focus on playwrights of color. Two staged readings, a children's musical, a one-woman show, a panel discussion with local actors, and two lectures are all free and open to the public. This is the second endeavor for the burgeoning company, which staged its debut performance (Thelma Houston's *Choir Boy*) last fall and will present *Argue With the Wind* at the end of April.

Why launch a new-play festival into the inaugural season? Founder and artistic director JAMES GREEN tells *Seven Days* by phone from his home in White River Junction. "We don't want to keep playing the same stuff over and over." He takes that one step further: "If a theater isn't doing new works, then the theater is dead."

Green is the executive behind JAGfest, but producing it is a community effort. The VERMONT LEARNING LAB and FURNACE ARTS have done a lot of the legwork to get audience members to the festival; he says. SPENCER AUSTIN, COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER, ROXBURY LITERARY FESTIVAL, the Jackson House Inn and the Norman Williams Public Library are donating space, resources and words of approval to the event.

Even with that support, Green acknowledges that mounting the festival is a gamble. "Professional theater is still a new thing for a lot of community organizers," he says. "New work and staged readings—this folks have never heard of before. It didn't necessarily feel like a new idea, but it's new to our community."

The actor and administrator has put his own spin on the festival by focusing it on artists of color, drawing on his relationships in the black theater scene



Clockwise from top left, Lillias White, Marwan Sarraf Karam, Tyler Beaumont and JAG Productions' *The Goodbye Heart*

and inviting guest artists to Woodstock. Once JAG Productions had selected the plays, the playwrights chose their directors, who in turn cast the shows. Green serves as producer, juggling actors' schedules, coming up with contingency plans and connecting the dots among community organizations.

Although the JAGfest plays all have racial themes, Green insists, "The focus is empowering the playwright." In that spirit, he has assembled nationally acclaimed writers and actors who share his dedication to diversity in the performing arts.

The first staged reading will be of *Swart*, by Harman David Kavan, a domestic drama set in rural Kansas that focuses on the relationship between two sisters. *Swart*, *People*, by Lillias Diamond, centers on four "hyper-intellectual Cambridge residents" who find themselves dancing around the racist reality of race before Obama's 2008 election.

JAGfest makes an first forays into children's theater with Pollack's *The Cool Kids Musical*. Based on the experiences

of the Little Rock Nine,

it tells the story of Lily Pollack, who works to form friendships despite her distinctive "goldfish skin" and other challenges.

Adding a touch of celebrity, Emmy and Tony Award winner Lillias White will present her one-woman show *The Lillias White Effect*.

In addition to performances, JAGfest leverages a culture of learning to Woodstock to present two lectures. The first speaker is Andrew McClure, editor and founder of *Remedy Black*, an online forum dedicated to "highlighting the achievement and innovation of African-American theater artists." Green speaks highly of McClure's tenacity and adds a humble brag: "I called [him] to ask about JAGfest. I was almost speechless, because he said, 'You absolutely interested. And sorry I missed Choir Boy.'"

The few's second lecturer, Taylor Reynolds, is a producing artistic leader of New York-based Movement Theatre Company, which develops and produces new work by artists of color.

JAG Productions asks audience to "move beyond the work with more love, greater kindness, and greater compassion for one another," according to its online mission statement. JAGfest expands on that purpose by inviting Vermonters to engage with an increasingly diverse artistic world. ☺

INFO

JAGfest, staged readings and talks presented by JAG Productions, Friday through Sunday, Feb. 15-17 at 27 at various locations in Woodstock and South Portland. Free, no reservations required. jagproductions.com/jagfest

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All Together Now: A Composer, a Poet and a Cartoonist Meet in Concert

BY SADIE WILLIAMS

For the past five years, the VERMONT CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE has staged a Poetry & Music series that prompts composers to respond to works by area poets. This weekend, VCMER presents a fresh twist on that theme of collaboration — poems inspired by music. Not to mention a raised work based on a poem based on a cartoon.

Each of the ensemble's concerts in Montpelier and Burlington will have two parts. First, former Vermont poet laureate STEPHY LEA will read original works that respond to musical selections by VCMER director and clarinetist STEVEN KRAMOVSKI. Next, the ensemble will premiere *The Seagull and the Star*, a collaboration of Lea, former Vermont cartoonist laureate JAMES KACHALIA and Philadelphia-based composer Joseph Hoffman.

Lea, who lives in Newbury, has joined forces with Kachalia before. The poet and the Burlington-based cartoonist created the aptly titled comic "Double Laureate Tees-Up," which was published by the CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES and the VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL in 2012.

The *Seagull and the Star* project started with a world-class comic drawn by Kachalia. He's known for more lighthearted material, but this piece has a contemplative bent. It tells the story of a seagull that tries to nurture a star, and a convincing cat that stretches a candle into a head to stretch moods. The gull and the cat seek the unattainable by hand-drawn and pragmatic means, respectively. The reader must quit what they anticipated.

From this material, Lea created a poem that follows Kachalia's general story line but adds depth to the images. It plays on the human tendency to place value in subtle and asks us not to judge the actions of either animal, just to consider their results.

Lea has collaborated with Hoffman previously, as well. The composer drew inspiration from a poem of Lea's called "Suite in Machine" for his work of the

same name, which was performed in February 2014 at the VERMONT COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS in Montpelier. For the current concert, Hoffman wrote parts for viola, violin, piccolo, clarinet and bass clarinet. Kramovskii will pull double duty on the last two.

The *Seagull and the Star* is only 25 minutes long, hence the additional programming that reverses the pattern of VCMER's Poetry & Music concerts (another will be presented this spring). For this, Kramovskii says, he chose the music "based on what the musicians could readily play." He pulled three pieces by

Bach, French composer Charles Koechlin and avant-garde saxophonist Iñaki Dolz. Lea of VCMER's repertoire and handed them over to Lea.

The poet says he listened to the music over and over again, waiting for inspiration to strike. Dolz's piece — improvisations on Billie Holiday's "God Bless the Child" — reminded him of a poem he had already written, "Easy Wonder" which he sent to Kramovskii. His responses to the other two pieces are new poems.

Even with previous collaborations under his belt, Lea says the experience of working with other artists will feel new to him. "Each joint effort has taught me, increasingly, about the commonality among the arts," Lea reflects. "Collaborating, if so deftly done as it is in



From the Seagull and the Star

James' case, has everything to do with poetry, poetry with music, music with dance, and infinitely on." ☺

Contact: sadie@vermontgovt.com

INFO

Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble presents *The Seagull and the Star*. Friday/February 10, 7:30 p.m. at the Union Church of Montpelier and Saturday/February 11, 7:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theater Main Street Landing/Performing Arts Center in Burlington. \$5-\$15. vcm.org

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Local Artists Mount *Trumpuboo Rex* for 'Not My President's Day'

BY RACHEL ELIZABETH JONES

Questions: What do a 19th-century physics teacher, a French playwright and President Donald Trump have in common? Answer: All three figure in *Trumpuboo Rex: King Rex Revolted*, a one-night staged reading on Monday, February 20, at the **ACORNSPACE** in Burlington. The adaptation by Burlington-based theater artist **DAVID SCHEIN** and South Burlington writer **STEVEN STERNER** updates Alfred, Lord Tennyson's 1848 play *Ubu Rex*, with Trump as King Ubu.

The French playwright's *Ubu Rex* opened, and closed, on December 10, 1888, at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre in Paris. The outrageous, obscenity-laced romp centered on disgusting buffoon King Ubu and riled against theatrical tradition and structures of power in general. Many consider the work a precursor to a slew of modern art-ism-dramas, surrealism, futurism. The titular character was allegedly modeled after a physics teacher whose Jerry — 23 at the time — found particularly onerous.

"Theater should always cause a lot of trouble," Schein told *Seven Days* by phone. *Ubu* and *Trumpuboo Rex* (which Schein is directing) is part of **Real Happiness** and *Noisy Women's Not My President's Day* — billed on its website as "coming to a safe and special theater near you." The global "festival" centered by performance artist Lily Hughes, centers in a theatrical instruction of acting and writing out against the Trump presidency (in Vermont, Marlboro College will host a different related event: "Two-digit Resistance" with indigenous performer Mariel Migué).

Ubu Rex is "really important as a piece of rebellious art," Schein said. "If you're a theater person in the world," he noted,



David Schein



Illustration of Schein and Tennyson King Rex by Jeff Lang

"Ivan Chers to Tennyson Poem, you know about *Ubu*."

And Jerry's play appeared to have become a useful tool in the anti-Trump theater artist's toolbox. During election season last fall, a handful of Trump-infused *Ubu* adaptations

popped up across the U.S. from Seattle, Wash., to Lubbock, Texas. Schein and Sterner are well prepared to join the ranks of *Ubu* updates. Schein is a writer, performer and director who cofounded the Berkeley-based *Black Street Hawk* troupe in the 1970s. His many endeavors include collaborating with Chilean performance artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña in the 1980s and, more recently, performing the gender-bending solo piece "Out Comes Death" at Burlington's **OP CENTER FOR THE DRAMATIC ARTS**.

Sternor, who makes his living as a civil rights and welfare attorney, has spent the last couple of decades adapting Dante's *The Divine Comedy*. Last November, he released *Among the Lost* (in Dante's *Waste*), a contemporary interpretation of *Purgatorio*, the second book in Dante's *terza* five poem.

In Schein and Sterner's *Trumpuboo*, any resemblance to actual persons is, of course, inspired by America's current theater of politics. Joining *Trumpuboo*, played primarily by **REALITY GALS**, are such personae as *Invincibleproletariat*, the Prince of Pence (Pence of Womb), *Karakalapanos*, *Rad Vlad*, *Hilarys Quashed*, *Jeff Sessions*, *Steven* and *Kiki* *Ann*. Accompanying the play-actors will be the Third Chorus, a whoopee cushion-bearing ensemble that alternates between representing the Will of Pundits, a Debating Machine, and "vicious mobs, armies and popular fascist and democratic movements," explained Schein.

THEATER SHOULD ALWAYS CAUSE A LOT OF TROUBLE.

DAVID SCHEIN

"We're making accessible liberty," he added, noting that Jerry "had rules" about other uses of *Ubu Rex*. "I don't think he wanted it to have any kind of broad context," Schein said, "and [you're] completely violating that, in a way."

The final script is still a moving target. "[Schein and I] didn't want to finish it too fast, because everything is happening right now," said Schein. "Once it's not out of date by next week." Once completed, Schein offered, "If people want to publish or steal it, that's fine."

However, he warns out, the performance promises to be willful, spirited and irreverent. Publicity materials emphasize that "Though chaotic, it is not suitable for children." Except, of course, grown ones. ☺

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INFO

Trumpuboo Rex: King Rex Revolted, adapted by David Schein and Steve Sterner. Monday, February 20, 7:30 p.m., at **Acornspace** in Burlington. Tickets free at the door.

PHOTO: JEFF LANG

ARTS & CULTURE

DAVID SCHEIN

JEFF LANG FOR SEVEN DAYS

FEAR on the FARM

How Trump's immigration crackdown could decimate Vermont's dairy industry

BY PAUL HEINTZ



Two young men in blue jeans and gray sweatshirts swing through the barn door and into the whirling world of a milking parlor last Thursday afternoon. Their boss, a Vermont native and lifelong dairy farmer, greeted them in halting Spanish. "Buenas tardes!" he shouted over the sounds of sucking, chinking and moaning. "¡Buenos días," responded one of the men, shivering from the 10-degree temperature outside.

Like many of his peers in Vermont's dairy industry, the Addison County farmer has employed Mexican laborers for a decade and a half. They milk and care for his herd and perform the arduous work of keeping the farm clean, often working 12 hours a day, six days a week.

"We've come to really rely on them," he said, praising his Spanish-speaking workers' "voluntariness, performance, great attitude and work ethic."

But the farmer, who requested anonymity to discuss his legally dubious employment practices, may not be able to rely on migrant labor much longer.

Last week, federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers conducted a five-day sweep centered on Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta, San Antonio and New York City, arresting more than 600 undocumented immigrants. Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly called it a "routine" law enforcement exercise — impressing known criminals — and officials said it was planned before President Barack Obama left office.

But migrant laborers in Vermont and throughout the country fear the raids amounted to the opening salvo in President Donald Trump's assault on undocumented workers — an offensive that could devastate the state's dairy industry.

During his campaign for the presidency last year, Trump initially pledged to deport all 10 million people estimated to be living illegally in the U.S., though he later said he would focus on the 2 to 3 million he claimed were a threat to public safety. Days after taking office last month, Trump signed an executive order calling for the hiring of 10,000 additional immigration officers, expanding their authority to detain immigrants without criminal records and punishing cities and states that defy his orders.

Writing early Sunday on Twitter, the president took credit for last week's enforcement action.

"The crackdown on illegal criminals is merely the beginning of my campaign promise," he wrote. "Gang members, drug dealers & others are being removed!"

As word of a nationwide dragnet spread, rumors abounded in the state's agricultural community that ICE agents had raided a farm in northern Vermont last Wednesday. According to several sources, a single worker with a criminal record had been detained days earlier, but state and congressional officials said no confirmed raids had taken place.

"The dragnet's not as if looked into this and were told that there had been no increased or unusual detentions in Vermont in recent weeks," spokesperson for Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.) and Congressman Peter Welch (D-Vt.) told *Seven Days* in a joint statement.

Neither ICE nor the Department of Homeland Security responded to requests for comment.

According to Lisa Baker, a University of Vermont associate professor who studies the state's migrant labor force, the rumors have put dairy farmers and workers on edge.

"People are stressed and concerned," he said. "Everybody's developing contingency plans."

State Agriculture Secretary Aaron Tibbitts is among them. "There's an anxiety and fear that something may happen," he said.

On a conference call Tibbitts' agency held Tuesday for the state's dairy farmers, Leahy agriculture policy adviser Tom Berry said that Trump's executive order would "seem to make probably most of the undocumented workers on Vermont farms ... targets for enforcement action."

"But," Berry added, "exactly how [ICE] is going to follow up on that, we're just watching the news like everybody else to see what's going on in other states and what might be coming our way."



Migrant workers walk toward Vermont dairy farm.

The uncertain climate has prompted workers to hinder down on the farm and avoid even trips to the grocery store, according to representatives of the Vermont advocacy group Migrant Justice. Farmers and industry leaders, meanwhile, are bracing for a potential labor shortage and the possibility that Trump's trade policies could threaten the dairy export market. State officials — led by Republican Gov. Phil Scott and Democratic Attorney General T.J. Donovan — have been pushing back on the legal front, writing legislation that would shield Vermont officials from being deputized by the feds in immigration enforcement efforts.

"Vermont will not be complacent, nor will Vermont be complicit in this federal overreach," Donovan said last Thursday during a press conference with Scott in the governor's State House ceremonial office.

That same day in Addison County, farmer and farm-hand ally tried to ignore the legal drama and focus on milking hundreds of cows every eight hours.

After reporting for shift change and greeting his boss, one of the laborers took his place in the pit of the milking parlor and got to work — disinfecting udders and attaching milking machines. He would repeat that process, five times a day, from 3 p.m. until 3 a.m. the next day with just an hourlong break late at night.

Asked his impressions of the new president, the Mexican-born, who also declined to provide his name, bemoaned Trump's "plan to remove the workers."

"How are we going to work?" he asked in Spanish. "More than anything, we the undocumented are concerned how we're going to continue to work."

The farmer, standing nearby in a hooded Garbair sweatshirt, and he was equally concerned about how he would keep his cows milking if he lost his Mexican workers, who comprise nearly half of his winter workforce. He cautioned he could keep the farm operating "a week, two weeks max" with the rest of his employees working overtime.

"It's not a situation I would ever look forward to, not just because of the business, but personally what these guys lay out on the line every day. The struggles they go through — to house them needlessly," he said. "If they're breaking the law, get 'em outta here. We don't need any more than American criminals. But for the most part, they just want to earn some money and send it home."

The farmer is holding out hope that Trump won't follow through with his pledge to deport millions of undocumented workers.

"He's a businessman, and I know he employs some Hispanic people," he said. "So I feel like he's saying a lot, but until he goes and does something to ruin what's going on, I think it's more talk than anything else."

The farmer said he had counted on that assumption when he voted for Trump last November.

"It's me, every politician makes promises to get elected — and a lot of those promises aren't followed through," he said.

DIRTY WORK

Just 1.8 percent of Vermont's population identifies as Hispanic or Latino, according to U.S. Census Bureau figures, one of the lowest rates in the country. But over the past 15 years, Latin American immigrants — primarily from southern Mexico — have come to play an essential role in Vermont's dairy industry.

"It is very hard work, sometimes at very odd hours or extended hours," said Lt. Gov. David Rockswold, a Hardscrabble vegetable and pig farmer. "Most Americans don't want to do that sort of work anymore."

Mexican immigrants started moving north to the Green Mountains in the early 2000s, according to Ellen Shier, who directs UVM Burlington's Vermont Migrant Education Program. Because this sector of the economy operates largely under the radar, it's difficult to measure its size — and estimates vary widely. But according to a recent census Shier conducted, 177 of the state's 681 dairy farms employ some 660 Latin American immigrants. While most are young, single men, close to 10 percent have children in the U.S., she said.

In a separate, less comprehensive study, Baker found that 150 of the 170 Latino dairy workers he surveyed hailed from Mexico, most from the southern states of Chihuahua, Tlaxcala and Veracruz. Others come from neighboring Guatemala.

Another 800 migrant workers, including many Jamaican apple pickers, make use of the seasonal H-2A visa to work legally on Vermont's orchards, poultry farms and slaughterhouses. But there are no guest-worker programs for year-round operations, such as dairies. So most Mexican workers, who spend years at a time on Vermont's dairy farms, are likely doing so illegally.

Like many agricultural economies, Vermont's operates largely on a "don't ask, don't tell" basis. Migrant workers typically fill out paperwork affirming their legal status and present documentation, such as a Social Security card, to their employer. But farmers are not required to ascertain the validity of the identification, nor to submit it to the federal government. So long as they pay state and federal taxes, they retain plausible deniability in the event the ID was fake or stolen.

"They all seem to have the right paperwork when they get here," the Addison County farmer said of his Mexican workers. "I don't feel like it's my job as an employer to verify that these papers are real."

The farmer says he pays his employees the minimum wage — now \$10 an hour — and provides free housing, utilities and a weekly trip to the grocery store. Other workers find themselves in tougher conditions.

Pablo, a 25-year-old Tlaxcala native who declined to provide his last name, earned just \$125 an hour when he first started working on an Addison County farm in 2004. The boss provided housing but no hot water.

"After finishing my shift, I would have to come back and start heating up water on the stove so I could take a bath," he said through an interpreter at Migrant Justice's Burlington headquarters.

These days, Pablo is making \$10.50 an hour on a Franklin County farm and sending "a little more than half" of his pay back home to support his parents. But because he now works so close to the Canadian border,

got numbers?

63% of all milk produced in New England comes from Vermont

838 dairy farms in Vermont

660 Latin American immigrants on Vermont farms

134,000+ dairy cows in Vermont

321 million gallons of milk produced annually (enough to fill 36,000 swimming pools)

\$1.3 billion in annual sales of dairy products

SOURCE: VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, 2010
VERMONT MILK PROCESSOR ASSOCIATION, 2010
VERMONT MILK PROCESSOR ASSOCIATION, 2010



where federal agents have enhanced jurisdiction, Pablo is afraid to leave the premises more than once a month. He has paid a woman to buy groceries for him and his fellow workers.

"It feels more dangerous there," he said of the Franklin County farm. "The investigation officers just look at you and see the color of your skin. That's enough for them to get you."

Industry officials say it's no mystery why Vermont farmers rely upon Mexican immigrants.

"There is a shortage of steady, willing and able agricultural workers. It's a crisis," said Agri-Placement Services CEO E. Brendan Mallory. "There is not a demographic in the United States that is willing to do the work. It's hard, cold and dirty."

Mallory's company based in Rochester, N.Y., specializes in finding workers for dairy farms in 36 states. He counts close to 25 Vermont farms as clients. According to Mallory, the biggest threat to the farms he serves is not an increase in enforcement officers or on-farm raids. Rather, he said, it's a large-scale audit of employee documentation, which would force out those without proper papers. The feds could also require farmers to use the now-voluntary E-Verify system, which enables employers to check the validity of their workers' identification.

"That's a lot easier to do and a lot more cost-effective," Mallory said. "It's often said."

Like many members of his industry, Mallory hopes the federal government will one day create a visa program to accommodate dairy farms. Nearly four years ago, the U.S. Senate passed a permanent law advocated by Leahy allowing guest workers to stay in the country for three years at a time.

The senator's spokesman, David Carle, explained the rationale: "The cows aren't just giving milk three months of the year."

But the comprehensive immigration reform bill died in the House and appears to stand little chance of retooling during the America-first Trump administration. Mallory thinks that's a problem.

"We either will import our workers or we will report our food," he said. "It's one or the other."



Miguel Alcudia



David Carle

have begun asking emergency plans about suspending custody to somebody else if they were to be arrested and deported."

Dave Chappelle, a labor management consultant who works closely with Vermont dairy farmers, says that migrant workers have worried about Trump since "day one" of his presidential campaign, when the New York businessman accused Mexican immigrants of "bringing drugs—bringing crime [and being] rapists."

"That came out on Spanish language TV, and I had migrant workers asking me about it the day he said it. They were like, 'What's this guy?'" Chappelle recalled. "The message that he's sending is that this community is not welcome here."

According to Balcaraz, that sort of discrimination is hardly novel. "It's something that we as a community have always had to confront — the fact that we're treated as criminals, persecuted, isolated — just because people don't understand the causes of migration," he said. "But it became a more difficult moment than before, because now those sentiments had found their spokesperson."

In recent years, migrant activists have won hard-fought victories in Vermont, including enactment of a statewide, bias-free policing policy and the creation of

nonprofits driver's licenses. Those initiatives reduced the likelihood that an undocumented worker would be pulled over and arrested simply for leaving the farm to buy groceries.

But even those changes didn't keep ICE agents from pulling over Vergennes farmworker Miguel Alcudia last September as he drove to a nearby bank with a valid driver's license. The 35-year-old migrant justice activist spent three weeks in detention for overstaying his visa. A public outcry helped win his release.

"Being locked up like that completely changed my life," he said through an interpreter. "But what got me through it was the hope that the community I belong to have would rally behind me."

Alcudia might not have been so lucky under the Trump administration. Last month's executive order permits ICE agents to detain and deport anyone who has "committed acts that constitute a chargeable criminal offense" — a description that applies to anyone whose papers aren't in order.

"For me, the real concern is that the bar has really been lowered," said state Rep. Peter Gordon (D-Cornwall), who used to work for Mallory at Agri-Placement. "But in the end, it takes more money from Congress to make this happen. And unless that money is there, enforcement can only go so far."

Nevertheless, Chappelle argued, "The damage to the migrant community has already been done." Some smaller farms, he said, have turned to fully automated robotic milking. And some workers have returned home, hoping to avoid deportation so they might return legally under a future guest-worker program.

Migrant Justice organizer Brendan O'Brien, meanwhile, worries that the hostile climate toward undocumented workers will push them into exploitative work arrangements "with fewer rights and protections."

"Trump creating more fear and a bigger crackdown drives people into conditions they wouldn't accept under other circumstances," he said.

"We've worked really hard in, little by little, come out of the shadows," Balcaraz said. "Now we have a situation where the current administration wants to have us living back in the shadows."

"THIS IS OUR LIVELIHOD"

The president's words have rattled dairy owners, too.

"The first time that Trump made those comments that Mexican people are a bunch of criminals and rapists, I cried," said a second Addison County dairy farmer, who also requested anonymity. "I couldn't believe someone could stand up in America in his position and make that kind of a statement and get away with it."

The farmer, who has employed Mexican workers for a decade, has come to the opposite conclusion as Trump.

"The people I know are wonderful people," she said. "They care about their jobs. We treat them with our animals, for God's sake. This is everything for us. This is our livelihood."

It's also critical to Vermont's agricultural economy. Though little may get more attention these days, cow's milk still accounts for \$564 million of the state's \$776 million commodities market, according to the U.S.

LICENSE TO DISCRIMINATE?

Six years ago, Enrique Balcaraz left home in Toluca to milk cows in Vermont. He was just 17 years old.

Balcaraz says he helped to make enough money to go back to school and to help support a younger brother. He also helped to reunite with his father, who had spent the previous eight years in the U.S. — much of that on New York and Vermont dairy farms.

The work, Balcaraz found, was "grueling" and "isolating" — and the pay insufficient.

"I felt really sad and wondered if it was the right decision to come here," he said through an interpreter.

Now 23 years old, Balcaraz works as an anguero and spokesman for Migrant Justice. In that role, he keeps in close touch with Mexican farmworkers around Vermont. He said his community is plagued by "uncertainty about what is happening."

"There are a lot of families who have stopped going about their day-to-day business because of the fear that they [will] — have stopped going to the grocery store or stopped going to school," he said. "Families

Fear on the Farm

Department of Agriculture. Including value-added products, such as cheese and ice cream, dairy brings in \$1.1 billion in sales and spurs \$2.2 billion in economic activity, according to the state Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets.

It's not just Trump's immigration policies that might hurt Vermont's dairy industry. The president has also proposed protective tariffs that could sap a trade war.

"If we were to lose our export markets, it would have a huge, immediate impact on the food industry," the second farmer said. "Period."

According to the U.S. Dairy Export Council, a quarter of the nation's \$5 billion in annual dairy exports go to Mexico. The Trump administration has floated a 20 percent levy on Mexican imports to pay for the wall he hopes to erect between the two nations — a move that could prompt countermeasures.

"There's a lot at stake," said Agri-Mark Family Dairy Farms cooperative spokesman Doug DelBono. "We all want to protect U.S. jobs. We all want to protect our borders. But at the same time, export markets are difficult to find. We want to protect those markets."

Roughly one-third of Vermont's dairy farmers belong to Agri-Mark, which owns the Cabot brand. The co-op employs 120 people at a Middlebury plant and 150 in the town of Cabot.

"For us, one of the most important things is to protect farmers who may have workers who aren't properly documented," DelBono said.

The second farmer says she's trying not to dwell on the possibility that she could lose her help, dependable workforce.

"I'm going to remain optimistic," she said. "Dairy farmers — we have an optimistic outlook, anyway. We're always hoping for better weather. We're always looking for a better price."

But the daughter of Canadian immigrants can't shake the feeling that there's something fundamentally unfair about targeting the very people sustaining Vermont's agricultural economy.

"They're not taking any jobs. They're filling a void," she said. "They're here for the same reasons our parents were. They're here to provide a better life for themselves and their families."

PLAN B

Two weeks ago, the Agency of Agriculture convened a meeting of dairy industry leaders at the Vermont Farm Show in Essex. The goal? To prepare for an uncertain future.

"If there was to be a [federal enforcement] action, we need to have a contingency plan, because the cows need to be milked at a minimum of twice a day, seven days a week," said Tibbitts, the state agriculture secretary. "We would need to work with a farmer to make sure that would get done."

Tibbitts cautions that any plan hinges on its early stages, but he imagines volunteer work crews, such as those that appeared in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene, to milk cows on a short-term basis. In the longer term, he hopes to work with the Vermont Department of Corrections to train inmates to milk. Tibbitts' agency is also exploring whether dairy farmers could



Milking a cow in a Vermont dairy barn.

One Addison County farmer, who voted for Trump, is holding out hope that the president won't follow through with his pledge to deport millions of undocumented workers.

use the H-2A Visa program, though his 10-month farm would pose challenges for their year-round operations.

"If there was a statewide crackdown, we'd have to deal with it head-on, because there's a tremendous amount of money at stake, and the health of the cows is at stake, as well," said Tibbitts, who grew up on a Cabot dairy farm and still lives on the property.

Meanwhile, the state legislature has begun to debate a bill drafted by Scott, Donovan, and the Civil Rights and Criminal Justice Cabinet they have convened.

The legislation, introduced last Thursday by a bipartisan group of lawmakers, prohibits state and local officials from collecting and disclosing to the federal government "personally identifying information," including race, religion, national origin and immigration status. It also bars any Vermont authority, other than the governor, from entering into immigration enforcement agreements with the feds.

That second provision is aimed at Trump's January 25 executive order, which directs the secretary of homeland security to strike accords with state and local officials to empower agencies under their control "to perform the functions of an immigration office." Those functions include "the investigation, apprehension or detention of aliens in the United States."

"If we make it so only federal agents are the ones carrying this out, that would slow the pace of removal of workers off farms," explained Sackman, the lieutenant governor. "That alone would give us more time to make adjustments as needed."

Public Safety Commissioner Tim Anderson, who oversees the Vermont State Police, says state law enforcement officers remain committed to nondiscrimination policies — despite the federal crackdown.

"We're not going to do anything different with respect to what we've done and our fair and impartial policing policies," he said. "That hasn't changed. That isn't going to change."

Vermont farmers and workers have allies in the state's congressional delegation, too. Leahy, Sanders and Welch "are paying close attention and are greatly concerned" about Trump's executive order, their spokesperson said in their joint statement.

"In particular, foreign workers on Vermont dairy farms seem to be in an especially precarious position, and there is a lot of uncertainty on all sides about what happens next," they said. "That is unacceptable."

Politicians aren't the only ones preparing for the unknown.

Leslie Holman, a Barre attorney and past president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, has been recruiting law peers to represent potential detainees. She has also been advising undocumented workers to designate a contact person who can coordinate legal assistance — and to keep that person's phone number handy.

"Farmers should certainly be talking to their workers to make sure that they have this information with them, so there's some one they can go to," she said.

Baldwin, the Milport justice spokeswoman and former farmworker, says his community feels lucky to have "a lot of allies" in Vermont.

"The state needs to stay strong in this political moment and stand up for itself," he said.

Already, the recently detained worker, echoed the sentiment.

"You can't live under fear," he said. ☐

Contact: paul@vermontpost.com

Dear Cecil,

I bought a Fitbit for my company's health challenge, and I was surprised to see how it could not only monitor steps but also track sleep, calories and resting heart rate. This made me wonder what other information about me could be learned from these data. What are the privacy concerns? I don't care if my employer knows I ride my bike 50 miles a week, but could they know if someone was at the bar until 2 a.m.?

—Dennis Hussey



Many have swooning on your off-the-clock possibilities may be the least of your worries. Fitness trackers can upload a nearly complete record of where you've been and what you've been doing during your every waking moment — and then have soundly you sleep at night, too. As police and judges recognize the evidentiary value of such data, it's possible that every step you take can and will be used against you in a court of law. And most of these devices — Fitbit's the best known, but its competitors are legion — lack some basic security precautions. Even if you're one of those uptight, nothing-is-like types, you might not want someone creeping in and tracking your movements, or worse.

Fitbit privacy has been a gradual process for maker and wearers alike. At first, the device's default settings made your online user profile public. Soon enough, those who hadn't

opted into such details discovered that a quick Google search would turn up their Fitbit-measured activity — potentially including their, ahem, most intimate. Now publicly visible data is an opt-in, not an opt-out. Another privacy upgrade was a business necessity. In 2015, Fitbit voluntarily became compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, the federal law that sets privacy and security requirements for medical info. Though HIPAA doesn't cover wearable devices (for online, health-record storage, it-basically-priorities tests at gene-sequence companies, for that matter), Fitbit had to adopt its standards anyway in order to partner with corporate wellness programs.

But the big security hole for fitness trackers, according to a study published last year by the Canadian nonprofit Open Effect, is the way the wearable device gets your activity stats

online for storage and review — namely via a Bluetooth link with your phone. Fitbit and most other popular wearables broadcast a single, unique Bluetooth address, wherever they're not actually connected to a mobile device, the report warns, this allows for "long-term tracking of their location" (The Apple Watch, which emits multiple randomized addresses, evidently does better on this front). A Bluetooth signal can't travel far — only about 10 meters — but a set of antennas arrayed strategically in a mall could trail you from store to store, whether for overzealous inventory-control purposes or to build a profile of your shopping habits for which marketers would pay well.

Increasingly, law enforcement is also curious about what your Fitbit might have to say. The U.S. Supreme Court says police need a warrant to

search your cellphone, as fitness trackers would probably be similarly protected. Fitbit's privacy policy allows that your data may be disclosed "if we're required to by law." But where other tech companies including Google and Facebook regularly issue transparency reports, providing stats like how often the authorities have requested user info and how often the company has complied, Fitbit has yet to adopt such a policy.

And reported on or not, fitness tracker data is finding its way into legal proceedings. In 2015, a woman in Pennsylvania who told police she'd been raped was charged with making a false cause report after the cops found that tracking information from her Fitbit contradicted her story. A *coxeter* tracking app showed that — Christopher Beecher was over the speed limit when he made his bike through a San Francisco crosswalk in 2012 and killed a 71-year-old pedestrian, he pleaded guilty to felony vehicular manslaughter. On the bright side, you might be able to use fitness stats on your own behalf as well. In a recent Canadian personal-injury case, lawyers for a former personal

trainer have sought to introduce Fitbit data to demonstrate their client's allegedly reduced level of activity following a car accident.

It may seem surprising how quickly insurers and courts are coming to accept tracker data as fact, given what seems to be real limits on the systems' reliability. Independent studies have found that devices have difficulty consistently measuring heart rates accurately, the FDA announced last summer that it wouldn't regulate them. And tracker apps are hardly impenetrable to hacking. About a year ago, e-consulters busted into some Fitbit accounts and tinkered with user names and passwords, apparently hoping to use consumer warranties to get replacement devices and sell them. The Open Effect study reports that some other fitness trackers are even more vulnerable, allowing hackers to delete or modify activity data, or you could do the same if you've got know-how and lock scripts. Modified heart-rate stats might convince an insurance company you're a fitter swimmer than your doctor might think you are. And a twinned runner? A solid ally for the cops.

INFO

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Journeys' End

Vermonters cope with the effects of Trump's travel ban

BY KYNELIA SARI

According to Middlebury College student Mohammed Babiker, "In Sudan, we tolerate the democracy of the U.S., the freedom of speech in America." But for several days recently, the Sudanese national said, he found himself afraid to share his thoughts publicly. The reason: On January 22, President Donald Trump signed an executive order that closed the U.S. to refugees and nationals of seven predominantly Muslim countries, including Babiker's.

With one stroke of the pen, tens of thousands of lives were disrupted. They included those of refugees seeking a new beginning in the U.S. and academics returning from visiting their families abroad. The State Department estimated that as many as 10,000 visas were revoked; the Justice Department put the number at 300,000.

On February 3, U.S. District Judge James Babert in Seattle, Wash., blocked Trump's temporary order and lifted the ban nationwide. Refugee resettlement agencies rushed to release flights for families and individuals cleared to be resettled in the U.S., including some bound for the Green Mountains State.

Although the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld Babiker's ruling on February 9, uncertain refugees and current Vermont residents Aliana Ali and Ni Doh Bihoo, whose spouses remain in refugee camps, are desperate to get them in the U.S. For his part, Babiker said he won't leave the country to visit his family, even if his visa is lifted. He doesn't want to risk any charges.

And these stories of separation, too, refugee family recently found a happy ending: Seven days earlier in Santa Rosa, Calif., Babiker's wife welcomed his sister and her children at San Jose International Airport last Saturday.

These Vermonters shared their stories with Seven Days.

Uncertain Wait

Aliana Ali, 23, calls her 7-month-old daughter, Yassini, the granddaughter of her husband, Ali Ali. She grew Yassini last summer, but the child and her father have never met, and Aliana fears they never will.

Two months after the death, couple married at British refugee camp in Kenya,

they had to part ways. In October 2015, on weeks pregnant, Aliana joined her family as they left to resettle in Vermont. It was too good an opportunity to lose, but because her family had applied for resettlement prior to the marriage, Ali couldn't accompany his wife. The pair promised to call each other every day.

Nearly arrived in Vermont, Aliana filed a petition for Ali to join her through a family-reunification program. After Babiker's birth, occupancy restriction at



her family's apartment forced Aliana to move into a GOTS family shelter.

Now, however, she has her own place, which she has been preparing for Ali's arrival. Ali she sends a text. For now, Aliana sleeps on a twin mattress on the floor. She's looking for a job and learning English.

Ali, 24, was scheduled to meet with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials in Nairobi in early March. Aliana hoped they would be reunited in Vermont by June.

After the executive order, however, Ali's meeting was canceled, and it's unclear whether his appointment will be rescheduled. Aliana said her husband remains his daylong nights to her. "I often made to see her father," she said. "I miss my husband... [it] said to be a single mom."

Like Aliana, Ni Doh Bihoo is waiting for his spouse to join him in Vermont. The 20-year-old Burmese man resettled in the U.S. in 2015. He returned to his refugee camp in Thailand last year to get married, and he wants to visit his wife, Pein, in April. But he's cautious about his application and fearful that he'll be denied reentry into the U.S., where he has a green card but as not yet a citizen.

"This new president will decide not to take immigrants anymore... I worry," said Ni Doh Bihoo through an interpreter.

Like many of his fellow Burmese, Ni Doh Bihoo is concerned that he may not be able to contact an immigration lawyer if he's detained at the airport. He's only taken English lessons for a year and still faces a formidable language barrier. "I want to go [for more lessons]," he said, "but if I don't go, how can I going to live?"

Ni Doh Bihoo jobs at the Burmese Tap & Grill and Tony Thai Restaurant keep him busy, making it difficult for him to place calls and inquire about his visa's application during business hours. That causes him stress, he said, while his wife faces a crushing lack of opportunities in the refugee camp. "No job. She wants to go to English class [in the U.S]," Ni Doh Bihoo explained. He calls her every week.

To critics of the resettlement program, Ni Doh Bihoo had this to say: "They hold down on refugees, because we're human, too. And we should be treated like everyone else. We all work hard."

Staying in School

Sudanese student Mohammed Babiker's country state of arrest is how national the executive order presented him entering the U.S. Since the law's initial imposition, he said, the massive outpouring of support from his opponents has given him hope and made him feel more optimistic. "The rejection of this order by a big number of people made me really happy," said Babiker.

Now 20, Babiker left his family home in Khartoum four years ago to attend boarding school in India. He graduated with an international baccalaureate diploma. He's currently a sophomore at Middlebury, where he plans to double-major in economics and computer science.

Even before the travel ban was issued, Babiker read a draft of the executive order, which became available on the internet after it was leaked to several news organizations. "I was very concerned and tried to reach out to as many laid people as I know [including the International Student and Scholars Services]," he said.

His parents have assured him they won't concern about the travel ban. But Babiker thinks they're "shaking their way," he said. And he says they've postponed plans to visit him in Vermont. It



would have been their first time in the U.S., he said.

Even if the executive order is permanently repealed, Babiker said, he'll stay in the U.S. until he completes his education.

"I'm too skeptical... I don't want to risk it," he said. "My future is here."

Safe Landing

When Santa Rosa left his refugee camp in Nepal in 2006, he was the first member of his Khazaxian family to be resettled in the U.S. "There was no one to welcome me [at the airport] when I first came," he recalled.

Fast-forward to 2017. Last Saturday, Santa, 42, and his younger brother, Lamona, 44, came to Burlington International Airport to welcome their youngest sister, Ganga Mays, 18, and her two children. The brothers carried a big bag stuffed with pillows, gloves and hats.

"I am thinking that they may feel very cold because they have never been in cold, snowing place," Santa explained.

The bag also contained several pieces of khata, ceremonial scarves intended to bring the refugees good luck, which the family had bought from local Nepal markets.

Ganga Mays and her 9-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter had been scheduled to arrive on February 3, but their travel plans were canceled after Trump's executive order was signed. When the travel ban was suspended, they were rebuked on new flights.

Santa's elderly parents worried at his home in Wisconsin for the reunion with Ganga Mays, whom they hadn't seen in five



— Sheri Stearns and Ganga Maya help playing on their new wooden beds

See more photos of the Bhutanese families arriving at www.sevendaysvt.com

they've known one another for just a year. Stearns described their relationship as "very close."

"Last year, I was in the same spot," explained Stearns when asked why he decided to join the welcoming party. "It feels nice, when we come here as a refugee, and then people welcome us."

Just after 11, a large group of incoming protesters approached the baggage carousel. They might have passed for ordinary passengers if they hadn't carried white plastic bags bearing the logo of the International Organization for Migration. Staffers from the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program recognized the group. Phub Lazo from VERP led an elderly woman to a chair to rest while she waited for her luggage. Stearns asked a passenger about his arrival and received an affirmative answer.

Finally Ganga Maya arrived and greeted her twin with a smile. Laxman smiled while Khata smoothed her neck. He held the same for his nephews. Binod, Sharna, and most, Paga Sharna. All three seemed overwhelmed and exhausted. Asked how the flight about arriving in Burlington, Ganga Maya said simply, "Happy." Her children stayed close to her side.

Before leaving the airport, Stearns fitted a gray woollen hat on his niece's head, then replaced it with a bright blue one. She appeared delighted with her uncle's choice, as did Binod, who got the gray hat. Then, just as they had landed in Vermont with little fanfare, the Bhutanese arrivals were whisked off quietly to start their lives anew. ☐

Contact spawdy@sevendaysvt.com

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SEVEN DAYS



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years. They were "so excited," Stearns said. But especially the most excited was Laxman. Ganga Maya is his twin — younger by just two minutes.

"I'm very excited. I'm very, very, very happy," Laxman said at the airport. Laxman, who arrived in the U.S. in 2012, encouraged his sister to leave the refugee camp, too. Like Ganga Maya, Laxman has two children. One of them, 10-year-old Akenda, is a senior at Burlington High School and plans to attend Colchester University in the fall. Laxman remains in charge and anywhere to have the same opportunities.

"Come here, you can make a future. Come, come, come," he remembered telling Ganga Maya.

The brothers are realistic about what awaits their sister in Vermont. She will have to learn English and find a job to support her family.

"I think she will have to struggle," Stearns said. "But after struggling, she will have a better life."

At close to 11 a.m., the brothers greeted other Bhutanese newcomers who, like them, were welcoming arriving family members. And Karla of Burlington noted why that her mother had had a headache the night before, until his aunt's imminent arrival cured her. He identified that the travel loss had made him passionate about seeing his relatives again.

Now the brothers stand a Bhutanese neighbor of theirs, Sept. 1st. Although

From Sea to Shining Sea

Author and long-distance rower Kathleen Saville talks about oceans, deserts and Vermont

BY NANCY STEARNS BIRCAW



Blue Heaven Lake in north up to Saratoga

In 1961, Kathleen Saville and her husband, Curt, rowed across the North Atlantic Ocean from Morocco to Anguina in a 25-foot boat of their own making. Between 1964 and 1968, they rowed the South Pacific from Peru to Australia in the same vessel. Saville earned two Guinness world records as the first woman to make these crossings in a rowboat.

The first trip happened at her suggestion, inspired by a summer of rowing in the North Maine Woods. The young couple had hit a fork in the road of life: They could settle into jobs and mortgages or take the less-traveled route, it is Robert Frost. Just before the Savilles set out from Casablanca, someone in the crowd gathered at the dock asked Curt why they wanted to make the perilous journey. "Because, through exploration, people and nations can learn to live and work together in peace," he responded.

In Saville's new memoir, *Rowing for My Life: Two Oceans, Two Lives*,

One Journey, the Rhode Island-born part-time Vermont resident recounts her extraordinary relationship with extreme adventure, as well as with her remarkable husband, Curt died in 2006 after a necking mishap in the Egyptian desert.

Saville, 61, has been on the faculty of the American University in Cairo since 1997 as a senior instructor in rhetoric and composition. She also serves as director of the school's Writing Center.

The couple's son, Christopher, who was concerned somewhere in the Pacific, was born in Morgan, Vt., in 1966. These days, he manages his parents' property in the nearby town of Holland. Saville spends summers with him while on break from school. She wrote some of her memoir at their home and some at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson during a two-month residency.

Writing *Rowing for My Life*, Saville explains in her preface, was "part of the healing process over Curt's death." And

it helped her "better appreciate the relationship that made us so successful as partners, how we evolved as individuals, and how those years jump-started my life and contributed to making me the person I am today."

Saville's story offers a wild side through gale-force winds and bone-deep winter, midnight waves and recurring waves, flying fish and boring sharks. *Rowing for My Life* is both harrowing and heartwarming. Saville boys caught up with the author via email and Skype.

SEVEN DAYS: Tell us about your connection to the Green Mountain State.

KATHLEEN SAVILLE: I first came to Vermont in 1977 when I was dating Curt. Curt's family [from North Carolina] had summered in Morgan in the Northeast Kingdom going back to the late 1840s, I believe. We later moved there the summer after the

1960 Atlantic row. In 1966, we built a tiny house in nearby Holland after the Pacific row. I come back every summer when I have sabbatical leave. I always miss the beauty and peace of the NEK when I'm in the big city of Cairo.

SD: Your South Pacific row, a total of 18,000 miles, is made even more extraordinary by the fact that you were pregnant for the second half of it. What was it like being on the wild seas during that time?

KS: I wasn't really sure until we were rowing between American Samoa and the Vanuatu islands in the western South Pacific, because my body began to feel different on the boat. One of the discomforts was that I couldn't keep down my seasickness pills, which I normally took for a couple of weeks after we left port. And, of course, I found myself having to go out on deck all the time to pee, which was tricky in stormy weather or late at night.

SD: Despite being in life-threatening conditions, you and Curt managed to speak kindly and respectfully to each other throughout your journeys, as well as give each other "space" to be alone on the 25-foot Excalibur. A lot of marriages would have exploded. Why did it work for you two?

KS: A lot of people have commented on that aspect of the rows, too. I could never understand it at the time, because we were best friends and had an ease of relationship that I took for granted. You pointed out the most important aspect of getting along, and that was giving each other space. That was very important to each of us, not only on the boat but on land, as well. It was instinctive for each of us to gravitate towards a space of our own. On the boat, Curt liked to be in the bow cabin when he wasn't rowing, and I liked being on deck so I could watch the waves, which I did for hours on end.

SD: Curt navigated your ocean crossings using the sun, stars and a sextant. Your only contact with the outside world was through brief ham-radio exchanges, some of which were in Morse code. Talk

BOOKS

about the "good old days" of finding your way in the middle of nowhere.

IS Whybarn on the middle of nowhere is a full-time job. For some people who thought being on the rowboat for weeks on end was a boring occupation, they have to consider the survival aspect of it. Navigating with a sextant and plotting your course on a chart by hand takes a lot of time. This was part of the reason Curt spent much of his free time from the rowing in the cabin. He loved doing the calculations and plotting how far he'd come and had to row.

The radio was also a highlight in our lives, because we got to communicate with people other than ourselves. We were never serious TV watchers in our marriage anyhow, except for the 1998 war series, "Bloods Landing," which we liked to watch for some reason in between episodes.

SD After all that ocean, you made your home in the sprawling city of Cairo, Egypt. What do the ocean and the desert have in common for you?

IS I suppose it's the wide-open spaces of both the ocean and desert that make a connection for me. I feel as though I have room to think and be creative when there is a lot of space around me. Though I live and work in Cairo, an extremely populated metropolis, I have traveled to the western and eastern deserts of Egypt and spent a lot of time there rediscovering my soul, as it were. There is something about a space with a very distant horizon that

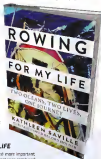
pulls you in and makes you want to explore every inch of it.

SD Are you still driven to "explore anywhere and everywhere in the world" — or, as you put it, quoting Harry David Thoreau, "the Atlantic and Pacific of being alone"?

IS All the time. I travel a lot. Last November I went back to Morocco [twice] in 1st on the beach at Agadir and thought of us sitting just that very point of land — I remembered how scared I was on the boat in the horribly stormy conditions of coastal Morocco as a brand-new ocean rower. I'll never stop wanting to explore what is around the next corner. ☺

INFO

Rowing for My Life: Two Oceans, Two Lives One Journey by Kathleen Saville, Arcadia Publishing, 288 pages, \$24.95



FROM ROWING FOR MY LIFE

Beside the new records we had achieved, even important to me was what I had learned over the past year. I had met with the lessons of the Atlantic row. This was something of great growth that the physical aspect of the voyage, the adventure records with each successful lap of each row, when I touched land again after what had felt like an interplanetary experience. I realized that I was capable of doing more than I ever thought possible. In the quiet moments of longer, harder, faster days in isolation, I understood it was all about making choices and taking responsibility for decisions. When I completed my second ocean row, I was only the out. I knew that I would always be "on the road" not as a sailor of the sea, Jack Kerouac, but as a woman never-ending journey as explorer and explorer in other ways as well as to foreign lands and cultures, as well as of time and space and time, knowing only when I was ready to return.

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Art Beats

An exhibit of rock-star photography gets the Shelburne Museum pumping

BY PAMELA POLSTON

Last Saturday night, it was hard not to wonder what Shelburne Museum founder Electra Havemeyer Webb would have thought of a disheveled David Johansen, a heroin-ravaged Chet Baker, a nipple-forward Dalí like Harry or a pajama-clad Rod Stewart. These are the subjects of just some of the photographs currently filling both galleries in the museum's Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education.

The legacy of Webb (1878-1962) has informed every exhibition at the Shelburne since she launched it in 1947. To be sure, the institution justifiably retains its

reputation for possessing one of the largest and finest collections of folk art in the world but that was most likely irrelevant to the revelers at the packed head-ringing reception for "Backstage Pass: Rock & Roll Photography."

Webb, Webb has seemed like a typical native of the earlier 20th century, or would she have donned a rock-star costume

and hogged to DJ Disco Phantom's pumping tunes in the lecture-hall-turned-disco? Let's go with the latter. After all, the founder was a bit of a rebel in her own way. If anything was shocking, it might have been the price (\$10) of the cocktails mixed up with Stonecutter Spirits.

With its bare, ample covered food and march while staked with commemorative T-shirts and punk-style buttons, this party, well, rocked. In an especially clever touch, museum staff scattered equipment cases—the kind stadium-level hands take on tour—around the rooms to serve as tables or seating. No small measure of momentum came from the guests' suggestive costumes. When an otherwise respectable adult turns into Joan Jett or Johnny Rotten for the evening, you're not in the museum equivalent of Kansas anymore.



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Art Beats BY JOAN MARCUS

The exhibit itself is a far cry from historic oils and duck decoys, but it offers an enticing slice of another history, one in which viewers of nearly any age can find themselves. "Backstage Pass" is exactly the kind of show that the Shelburne needs to entice new patrons.

The streaming body of images from an anonymous collector primarily spans the 1950s through the mid-'90s — though the '60s and '70s dominate. It includes photographs of towering icons of jazz, folk, soul, reggae, hip-hop and pop, but it mostly encompasses, as the title says, rock and roll. Specifically, American and British rock — along with token Canadians Neil Young and Janis Minkwell.

Museum director Tim Denenberg, casual in jeans and a butterfly-patterned shirt, seemed as disoriented as his subject matter when he gave a gallery "nole" — he had to shoot show the music seeping through the walls. Muse brings people together, he noted, in a subtle nod to the current divisive political climate.

Though clearly aware that this was not the setting for a history lecture, Denenberg briefly traced the origin story of the genre depicted in the photographs. "Roughly speaking, rock and roll is an appropriation of black music," he said, referring to what was once called "race music." In 1945 — early in the post-war baby boom — music journalist and producer Jerry Wexler introduced the alternative term "rhythm and blues." As Denenberg writes in the show's catalog, this renaming "told many to consider racial barriers (and intergenerational discord) that will ever be transcended." And the world would soon meet Elvis Presley.

Denenberg mounted this same exhibition nine years ago at his previous institution, the Portland Museum of Art in Maine. But for the Shelburne, he told the crowd on Sunday night, "We put it on steroids — it's much larger."

Indeed, a lot of celebrity is packed into these galleries, and we postmoderns are experienced star watchers. Denenberg pointed out that, while the show includes some obviously posed photos, many of its images are snapshots — "musicians in repose," as he put it.



WHEN AN OTHERWISE RESPECTABLE ADULT TURNS INTO
JOAN JETT OR JOHNNY ROTTEN FOR THE EVENING,
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OF KANSAS ANYMORE.



Debbie Harry, 1971



Melanie Tisdale, 1982

That makes for many informal and intimate moments, such as Debbie Harry and longtime musical partner and bandmate Chris Stills, strutting a sweet line (1976), James Brown quietly playing a grand piano (1964), and Courtney Love applying eye makeup in a bathroom mirror (1994).

Whether posed or not, the photos also speak to an era of documentary photography — in fact, to the whole modern phenomenon of emulating an image, in every sense of the word. Some of the photographers themselves, or at least their names, earned star status, too.

At least one of these photos may not have been meant for public consumption: a headbanging image of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain sitting on the floor and crying. Denenberg, who calls the photo "harrowing" — the singer would later commit suicide — admitted he almost didn't include it.

In images like this, "Backstage Pass" alludes to the darker side of rock and roll. Viewers of a certain age will know that many of these musicians posed on ignominiously, including those in the "Forever 27 Club": Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison and, yes, Cobain. A positive snapshot of Buddy Holly sitting in a car was one of his last pictures taken of him before his fatal plane crash in 1959. Some viewers may find particular poignancy in the early images of musical giants who left us last year, including David Byrne and Prince.

Overall, though, this is a joyful showcase for youth culture (which, ironically, endures in the grandfatherly Rolling Stones). Besides, after all, rock and roll can never die.

By uniting generations in the appreciation of the energy, perhaps a photography show really can provide "a platform for coming together," as Denenberg suggested. That sense of connection, he added, gathering to the gallery walls, "is what this is all about." ☺

Contact: joan@shelburnemuseum.org

INFO

"Backstage Pass, Rock & Roll Photography" on view through May 7 at the Photography Center for Art and Education, Shelburne Museum, shelburnemuseum.org



Selling In

Switchback's Bill Cherry talks about a new business model and brews to come

BY HANNAH PALMER EGAN

On a call with *Seven Days* in late November 2015, Switchback Brewing cofounder and president Bill Cherry reflected on the success of his flagship amber ale. He had formulated the beer and supervised its production since its 2002 debut, tweaking the recipe along the way. Even so, Cherry refused to take full credit for it. "That's not my brew," he said. "That's a beer we've all created together."

Cherry went on to describe the company's collaborative management style, through which, he said, he hoped to "create an environment of openness." Doing so, he argued, would foster a fun and positive workplace and result in the best possible beer.

Then, in a somewhat cryptic aside, he added, "I'm going to disappear sometime," but he hoped to develop an exit plan that would keep the company's homegrown spirit alive.

That is exactly what he has done. At an all-staff meeting on February 6, Cherry and brewery cofounder and business partner Jeff Noddin announced that they'd sold the company — to its workers — under an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP).

"It's really just a one-company 409(k)" — a retirement plan, the brewer explained in a phone call later. "People get shares, but they're held in a trust. [When] they leave the company or retire, they get cashed out." Current employees will receive shares commensurate with the number of years worked at Switchback. Going forward, employees new and old will vest on an annual basis.

Cherry didn't disclose the terms of the "sale" but said that as long as the company continues to perform well, "I'll do really well for myself," while employees are also in for a generous sum when they retire.



By the middle of last week, Switchback's announcement was all over the news. On social media, employees expressed jubilation. Amid all the fuss, Cherry made time to chat again with *Seven Days*.

SEVEN DAYS: How does this ESOP change things from an operations standpoint?

BILL CHERRY: That's the best part ... With all the future stuff decided now, I can just focus on running the brewery. I told the employees [on] Monday [on Tuesday morning, we came in to work and every one of us was doing the exact same thing we always do. That's the whole plan.

WITH ALL THE FUTURE STUFF DECIDED NOW, I CAN JUST FOCUS ON RUNNING THE BREWERY.

BILL CHERRY

When you hear "employee-owned," you might think that we're going to have votes and stuff, but that's really not the case. I'm [still] the president. Management runs the brewery like it always did. In terms of the [ownership] trust, there is a board of directors, so that's one change, whereas currently it's just Jeff and myself.

SD: So, in terms of choosing folks to take over when you're ready to step out, promotions will follow the established company protocol?

EC: I have a crew here right now of roughly thirty-somebodies who are really running the show. I'm saying, I'm essentially handing the reins over to

ILLUSTRATION BY © P&S

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SIDEdishes

SERVING UP FOOD NEWS



Getting a Buzz On

TWO NEW COFFEE BUSINESSES
TAK FLIGHT

For the past few months, UPPER VALLEY COFFEE ROASTERS cofounders ANDREA FRANKLIN and COLLEEN LINDS have been roasting their batches of organically grown, single-origin coffee in their West Newbury garage. They've marketed their beans to a handful of local customers, who either swing by the roastery for pickup or arrange for a home drop-off. But this week, Franklin took down pins, the roaster will make its first retail delivery, to Franklin's home, 100 HILL STREET & GILL. She hopes to add accounts at other area co-ops and food stores as the coming weeks.

Like many other artisan coffee companies, Franklin said, the business grew out of a love for coffee. But high-quality roasting machines were pricey. So, last year, after moving from San Francisco back to her native Vermont, Franklin teamed up with her father, estate wealth manager and local businessman COLLEEN LINDS, to start Country Iron. "We built our coffee roaster from scratch," Andrea Franklin said. After research and design, the fabrication project took most of a year.

Now, the marriage runs weekly with beans that run the gamut from light, fruity coffees from Central America to chocolatey varieties from the Pacific Rim and South America.

Whether a roast goes dark or light depends on the bean,

Franklin said. "We try to roast in a manner that they'll taste best, rather than going toward a traditional-style French roast," she said. "We're aware that there are consumers who prefer the more traditional style."

While the roastery has yet to be certified organic — and thus cannot label its coffee as such — all the beans come from organic farms. "There are a number of plant diseases affecting coffee-growing regions right now," Franklin explained, and "organic coffees are more resistant to diseases." Every bean, she assured, has been purchased at a rate that ensures a livable wage for the growers.

Ready for a cup of joe? An online retail platform is in the works, but, for now, Franklin's roasts will be available at select markets throughout the Upper Valley, or order via email. Learn more at uppervalleycoffee.com/vt.

— HAVELYN PALMER EGAN

When MATTHEW and BRIAN URMAL started NORDIC COFFEE COMPANY, a Burlington-based service that brings beans to subscribers' doors, they had in mind certain sobering facts about the booming coffee industry. About 90 percent of the world's coffee farmers currently live in poverty — more during the off-season — and female laborers risk the lowest in wage income and management positions.

Supplying coffee lovers with an ethically sourced bean from a single featured roaster is the priority for Brothers, which launched last December. Subscriptions start at \$14 a month for a 12-ounce bag of beans, and \$18 from every subscription goes to Grounds for Health, a Wisconsin-based nonprofit

that screens women for cervical cancer in impoverished coffee communities.

Matthew, 24, said that he and Bryan, 22, tell our subscribers exactly why we selected each roaster, and why their story is so cool. Eventually, we'd like to expand to help [local] small roasters with great ideas get off the ground."



Two months after launch, Brothers is already serving an international clientele. Highlighted roasters, said Matthew, are chosen because they respect and invest in their growers, enforce a sustainable operation and have an undeniable passion for coffee.

"Labels aren't tell-alls," Matthew continued, noting that familiar tags such as Rainforest Alliance and Fair Trade don't tell consumers as much as they should. "We seek labels backed by a solid and a story."

That makes Vermont an appropriate base for Brothers, he added. "People here love their coffee, but they also want transparency; they like to support the people in their community."

— ALISA GLANCY

Nordic Nosh

CHOCOLATE AND BERRY LAUNCHES A CRAFTING BUSINESS

If you've been dreaming of a Viking wedding that couldn't feel the right corner, you're in luck. The ambitious folk at SMOKEWELL HAZARD

in Colchester — makers of honey wines such as Valley's Choc and the oak-aged Old Wylder — are launching a catering company. Thank Odin!

As a culture, "we've lost the ability to frost," pointed head smolderer NORYN GALE. "Nobody was asking for craft meat. We came up with the idea, and the fact that anybody is drinking it is a miracle...but people were asking for...gluten-free accessories that mark [important events]."

IN ADDITION TO CATERING will offer porked herring, chorizo, pig roasts and other Scandinavian-inspired fare, along with flacons of mead. In addition to working for hire, the company will host public gatherings at least once a month in state parks and farms all over Vermont, said Klen. He described those events as "food and craft that will be worth coming out and possibly standing in the rain for." For instance, guests might hike a mile to eat roasted beer atop a mountain.

BACK AT SMOKEWELL HAZARD, the tasting room and restaurant that Gale could rent in partnership with ALICE HALL, the company is using a new production technique to gradually double its honey-wine production. Klen and CEO Kelly Klen are planning an even bigger project: a 200-seat event space and a 300-plus-seat restaurant that will, ideally, be built into a 10-acre and covered in soil. "We have an idea where it's going to be," he said.

— SUZANNE POZZALUNO

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you You're the core group who's going to guide this place in the future

Sir Sounds like that's a while out still

BC The fact that I'm not ready to go anywhere makes this easier to do. The sooner you start, the easier it is. The employees already know what's going to happen. So, over 10 years, we can — say, "You're going to take over this process going forward." But I'll still be here to critique them.

Sir Switching gears: What can drinkers expect from Switchback in 2017?

BC [In January, we made Ciro's-Pils, four around] you-need-beer, so we're super focused on that right now. We kind of pulled back and looked at the market and said, "We're going to really perfect this beer." Every time we bottle, [some] goes into my fridge [at home]. I want to drink it at different times of day, different days of the week. It's still in this nascent phase, and I just want to consistently work on it a little more.

Sir A lot of the newer breweries seem to eschew the idea of a flagship beer. Do you feel any pressure to release new brews all the time?

BC We make one-offs here at the brewery, and we'll package them, but it's just so hard to get it on shelves. Bottlers are overwhelmed, and they're getting less cooperative with it. They call it SKG [homecode] overload, or something like that. It's just too much.

Some of the greatest beers I've had in the world — those iconic beers that have stood the test of time — there's no one thing about them punching me in the jaw about why it's good. There are all these hidden complexities. It drinks so easy, and yet it's doing so much that you're perpetually entertained by it.

SD You'd just started selling six-packs of bottles last time we spoke, in late 2015. Why stick with bottles when cans are all the rage?

BC The thing about cans is, they don't

work if you already own a bottling line. We know we're looking out on a certain amount of business — beach and hiking people, camping people. But otherwise, I quest on how much it matters.

Still, cans could be in our future. But we'll do it our way. Just like we wanted 10 years to go from draft only to [offering 22-ounce] bottles — it's going to have to be a really fancy coming line that I feel confident in. I can taste that coming instantly.

But if you're a new brewery, and there's a multi-counting line that comes around, and you don't have to unseat anything — that's a hell-of-a thing.

SD How have the six-packs worked out so far?

BC The [draft] environment's getting together for growth, but we grew more than 25 percent in volume last year, driven by those six-packs. We'd get comments from the big supermarkets that our six-pack was trending so their No. 1 [beer], and we weren't even in every store. So, it was a good launch.

SD How has the business changed since you started?

BC The craft beer business is becoming more of a business than it used to be. There's so much competition. I started with nothing more than a tap handle and a beer. I'm not sure you can do that anymore.

SD Any sage advice for new brewers coming up?

BC This is going to sound really lame, but stay inspired. I can spot a beer or a brewer from a mile away that's making something they don't fully [sound] behind. So know your passion, and that'll come through. If you really like it, other people out there are going to like it, too. ☺

Contact: hannah@switchbackvt.com

INFO

Switchback Brewing, 861 First Avenue, Burlington switchbackvt.com



More food after the classifieds section, page 41



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Slim

AGE/SEX: 2-year old neutered male

ARRIVAL DATE: January 6, 2017

REASON HERE: Transfer from South Carolina

SUMMARY: Stylish Slim (look at that beautiful coat!) is a sweet dog who's a fan of toys and can entertain himself throwing them around in his HSCC apartment. Having a friend old time. Slim is a silly guy who reminds us of a young and lanky deer trying to navigate the world—and that's just what he's doing in Vermont! One of his favorite things is to be with people, and since he can't count a staff member to keep him company during the day living in the shelter has been tough for him. Slim is rising, and ready to adventure in the Green Mountain State with his new family. Could that be you?

DOGS/CATS/KIDS: Slim will do best as the only dog in his new home; ask HSCC for more info. His history with cats and children is unknown.

Visit HSCC at 142 Kindness Court, South Burlington, Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m., or Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 862-0135 for more info.

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Figure 1 is a 10x10 grid showing the spatial distribution of the number of species per 100 km². The grid is divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant (rows 1-5, columns 1-5) shows a high density of species, with values ranging from 1.0 to 1.5. The top-right quadrant (rows 1-5, columns 6-10) shows a lower density, with values ranging from 0.5 to 1.0. The bottom-left quadrant (rows 6-10, columns 1-5) shows a very low density, with values ranging from 0.0 to 0.5. The bottom-right quadrant (rows 6-10, columns 6-10) shows a moderate density, with values ranging from 0.5 to 1.0. The grid is labeled with 'a' in the top-left corner and 'b' in the bottom-right corner.

for a morning. The staff offers on-site support. For more information, email info@familyaid.org or call 818-753-1518.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CHOICE EXPERIENCING MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

This support group is a blend of meeting for family, friends and community members to share in supporting loved ones through a mental health crisis. Mental health crisis might include extreme stress, grief, loss, depression, anxiety and other issues that arise. The group is a confidential place where family and friends can share their experiences and support each other in their journey of judgment and forgiveness to support loved ones.

Meets every 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm. Free. Open to all. Call 818-753-1518.

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Family coping with a loved one's (FCA) is an open support group for people who are living with the grief of a loved one's death. The group is a safe place to share your feelings and experiences with others who are also grieving. Meets every 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm. Free. Open to all. Call 818-753-1518.

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FROM PG.4

FROM PG.5

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HEALTHY HOUSING

This meeting helps group members share and coordinate efforts to improve housing conditions. Meets every 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm. Free. Open to all. Call 818-753-1518.

HEALTHY HOUSING

This meeting helps group members share and coordinate efforts to improve housing conditions. Me

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support groups

(CONTINUED)

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info: 603-251-3333
www.vtlib.org

PEER ACCESS LINE
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for people with mental health issues
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PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP
held every 2nd Tue. of the mo. 8-9 p.m. at the Maple Lodge, 2371 Mt. Airy, for the first time. Please call 603-251-3333 for more info.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS
held every 2nd Tue. of the mo. 8-9 p.m. at the Maple Lodge, 2371 Mt. Airy, for the first time. Please call 603-251-3333 for more info.

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DATE
Tuesday,
February 21, 2017

VOOL OFFICE
Bennington

TIME
11:00AM

For questions, please contact Tyson Davis at tyson.davis@vvm.edu or (802) 454-4156.
You will immediately receive a call from one of VVM's specialized career advisors.



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College of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences



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Project CONNECT (Aftercare Program) Director

For position details and application process, visit
jobs.plattsburgh.edu and select "View Current Openings"
2017 College Plattsburgh is a fully complex institution located in a beautiful scenic setting

GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED



A&S BREWING

The World Headquarters of **A&S Brewing** is growing and
seeking a Graphic Designer to help us drive the Visual
identity of our four craft beer brands:

Traveler Beer Company
Coney Island Brewing Company
Angel City Brewery
Concrete Beach Brewery

We need a driven, talented, versatile designer to work on
packaging, point-of-sale, and program and product
branding. The right candidate is patient and
communicative, with strong illustration and typography
skills and an eye for bold, engaging composition. If you
flourish in chaos and crave variety if you work well in team
environments, if you have your finger on the pulse of
current design trends, if you can juggle tasks and maybe
even bags full of you love beer and dogs and bagel fries,
then this could be the job for you.

Education: A.S. or B.S. or equivalent experience

Professional Experience: 3+ years design experience,
Advanced knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite, Knowledge
of printing processes and print preparation, Strong
illustration and communication skills.

Perks: A variety of benefits, including paid vacations,
extensive training programs, excellent healthcare, a
discount stock purchase plan, and a 401K program with a
generous company match.

Visit us at asbeer.com and select careers to apply!

Preventive Medicine

Clinical Assistant

Wellness Practice in Colchester, VT, is seeking an experienced MA, LPA or LNA to work Mon-Fri (10-40 hrs/week). Looking for an energetic, detail oriented team player who can work independently as a busy office. EMR, EKG, BIA & phlebotomy skills are required. Experience as a technician and IVs is a plus. Please email cover letter with resume and 3 professional references to preventivemed@vermont.com.



Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc.

DIRECT CARE PROVIDER

Are you seeking a FT or PT opportunity to make a difference in peoples' lives?

Be a part of 24/7 team providing residential supports to CRT consumers in residential setting. Support consumers around daily living skills. Experience in working with mentally ill preferred. Knowledge of, or desire to learn about, the needs and abilities of the mentally ill. Ability to deal with clients in all types of situations with patience, insight, and compassion. Ability to work effectively with other agency personnel in the implementation of client program and goals. Valid driver's license, good driving skills, use of car necessary occasionally.

To apply, please submit resume and cover letter to apply@csacvt.org. Apply online at www.csacvt.org. Or mail to Human Resources at 89 Main St, Middlebury, VT 05753.



JOB OPENINGS at HORSFORD'S

Great pay, paid holidays & immediate retirement plan

- Assistant Grower
- Field Crew
- Garden Center Professional
- Greenhouse Assistant
- Perennial Grower Assistant

Apply online at www.horsfordnurseries.com

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CENTRAL OFFICE**

IMMEDIATE OPENING

**DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL,
POLICY & LEGAL SERVICES**

Champlain Valley School District (CVSD) seeks a proven leader to join its central office administrative leadership team as its Director of Personnel, Policy and Legal Services. The Champlain Valley School District is a pre-K-12 system comprising the communities of Chittenden, Hinesburg, St. George, Shelburne, and Williston. The district employs over 900 full-time staff and has an operating budget of \$74,000,000. This progressive learning community prides itself in being a growth-minded organization with a commitment to ensuring the best educational opportunities for all its students. The successful candidate will share the values embedded in its mission/vision.

The Director leads the human resources management, policy and legal services of the school district. In conjunction with the Superintendent of Schools, this position is responsible for oversight and leadership in the areas of collective bargaining negotiations and agreement implementation, new-hire employee compensation, and board policy and legal issues. In collaboration with the Chief Operations Officer and the Director of Finance, develops, manages and provides oversight for the personnel budget and risk management program. This position provides leadership and management to the human resources team including payroll, benefits, and leave administration. This position serves as the Central Office Leadership team.

The preferred candidate will be able to demonstrate a successful record of leadership in the functional areas above, an ability to support the system through a reorganization process, excellent communication skills and ability to build strong & efficient working relationships with multiple stakeholders and departments with a large operational budget and multiple workloads.

Interested candidates should submit their application through schoolsprng.com. School-based experience is welcome, however, candidates with experience in organizations other than school districts are also strongly encouraged to apply.

This position will remain open until filled; however, preference will be given to those who apply by Friday, March 3, 2017.

For more information please contact:
Dr. Daniel M. French, Search Consultant
802-272-6245
danielmfrnch@gmail.com



**We are looking to expand
our Technical Staff with two
or three
FIRE & SECURITY
ALARM
TECHNICIANS**

At least one position (Fire Alarm Technician) requires a Type-S Journeyman license/TOP Qualified (for Security Technician positions, having a Type-I Journeyman license would be a plus)

This is an Opportunity to join an established company of team players

We are seeking reliable employees with good customer service skills to install, inspect & service Security/Fire Alarm Systems, CCTV, Access Control, etc.

Experience is necessary and a valid driver's license is a must!

We offer competitive wages, benefits and vacation time.

Mail or email resume to info@sunrayfire.com or call to schedule an interview.

802-879-0661
Sun Ray Fire & Security
One Free Waterplace
Dorset Junction, VT 05433

The State of Vermont

For its people, its place, its possibilities.

PART-TIME PHYSICIANS

*Department for Children and Families –
Disability Determination Services*

Would you enjoy stable, challenging work on a schedule that meets your needs in a collegial office environment where you use your clinical expertise to provide medical consultation to disability adjudicators?

Are you looking for an opportunity for a new or supplemental part time career outside a clinical setting while expanding your knowledge of unusual, potentially disabling conditions and their treatment?

The Vermont Disability Determination Services is seeking to contract with part-time physicians with current, unrestricted Vermont licensure (M.D. or D.O.) to provide consultation services in review and assessment of medical case files for disability applications.

Training is provided, and the work is performed at the Disability Determination Office in Waterbury, VT on a flexible schedule during regular work hours with no patient care responsibilities.

For details, questions, and application materials, contact 006 Director Trudy Lyon-Hart at 241-2454 or trudylyon-hart@state.vt.gov

All applications must be received no later than 4:00 PM Friday, March 3, 2017.

For more details regarding the Medical Consultant position go to vermont.businessregistry.com/IDPreview.asp?ID=19211



VERMONT

CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE



PAY IT FORWARD

Become the teacher who inspired you in only 8 months.
Transition to teaching with Champlain's accelerated Teacher Apprenticeship Program (TAP). Our fast-track to a teacher's license is designed for new & mid-career professionals wanting to teach grades 5-12.

Attend our information session to learn more.
Wednesday February 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Cortland College, 115 Lakeville Ave., Burlington
Register at taphp.org or Call 802.681.5844.



Legal Assistant

Prudent law firm in downtown Burlington, Vermont has an opening for a legal assistant to work with our real estate and corporate groups. The candidate will have law firm experience including formatting and editing documents specific to each practice area, as well as comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft Office software. In addition, this position requires a strong work ethic, an eagerness to learn and excellent writing, communication and typing skills. Minimum qualifications include an Associate's degree and/or a minimum of three years' law firm experience.

We offer a competitive salary and benefits package.

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and references to:
hr@gravelandshea.com
www.gravelandshea.com



farm2plate

Farm to Plate Network Manager

The VT Sustainable Jobs Fund seeks a dynamic Farm to Plate Network Manager with proven project management experience and a strong affinity with the mission of the VT Farm to Plate. Full job description available here.

Send resume and cover letter by 5pm, 2/15/12 to hr@farm2plate.org.



VIP is a 100% employee owned company where our customers are our friends. Using the latest technologies, we provide an innovative suite of solutions to distributors, bottlers, suppliers, and brand owners in the beverage industry. At the heart of our innovation is the VIP culture where we embrace a collaborative problem-solving approach, and put a premium on one's health and wellness. For over 40 years, VIP has built long-lasting relationships with many of the largest and most successful companies in the beverage industry. We value these relationships, and owe it to them to constantly strive to help them reach their goals in an ever-changing industry. Our famous maddy basketball and street hockey games, on-site fitness center, cycling club, softball team, and on-site child care center are just some examples of the activities that bring VIP employees together. Come work for a company where hard work is recognized, and a healthy work-life balance is encouraged.

VIP offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes health insurance, on-site child care and fitness centers, discounted EDGE memberships, paid time off, and more.

Pre-School Teacher

- Maintain an open, friendly, and cooperative relationship with each child and family to promote a strong home-school connection.
- Design classroom environment that promotes curiosity, hands-on exploration, problem solving, creativity and is a model for positive social relationships.
- Plan and implement developmentally appropriate curriculum consistent with Creative Curriculum and the VT Early Learning Standards to develop the "whole child".
- Conduct observations of each child on a weekly basis to document each child's developmental growth.
- Attend meetings or trainings required of this position that may/may not be during work hours. This includes trainings or workshops at child care resource center. This will count towards your 16 hours of professional development training hours required per year.
- Inspect the equipment for potential safety hazards, taking corrective action or informing the Director to prevent injuries.
- Comply with all Vermont State Licensing Regulations and Root's Childcare Employee and Policy Handbooks.

Education Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in early childhood or human/child development or a related field which includes one year (may be school year or experience if the experience is in a school) of successful experience with the ages of children specified by the terms of the license or appropriate license from the Vermont Department of Education.

VIP Day-Care has immediate openings for a Center Assistant, Infant/Toddler Teacher and a Preschool Teacher

Center Assistant

The Center Assistant will assist in the infant/toddler classrooms. Some of the responsibilities include assisting with lessons, caring for the children, and helping the day-care run smoothly. The ideal candidate will be creative, flexible, have a positive attitude, enjoy educating young children, and work well in a team atmosphere.

Education Requirements:

- Associate Degree in early childhood or human/child development or related field

The Infant/Toddler Teacher

The Infant/Toddler Teacher will be in charge of creating a safe and nurturing environment for children ages 1-5. He/She will assist with planning and implementing a creative curriculum. The ideal candidate will need to communicate daily with parents, be a reliable asset to the daycare, and most importantly get down and work at the children's level. Pay is competitive depending on education and experience. Applicant must have a positive attitude, be a team player and be committed to working with children.

Education Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in early childhood or human/child development or a related field, which includes one year (may be school year or experience if the experience is in a school) of successful experience with the ages of children specified by the terms of the license or appropriate license from the Vermont Department of Education.

**THE UNIVERSITY
OF VERMONT***Engaging minds that change the world*

Seeking a position with a quality employer? Consider The University of Vermont, a stimulating and diverse workplace. We offer a comprehensive benefits package including tuition remission for on-going, full-time post-grads. These openings and others are updated daily.

HVAC Technician - Physical Plant Dept. - #5648PQ - Performs highly skilled work in the installation, maintenance and repair of building heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems and controls. Performs highly skilled work in the maintenance and repair of refrigeration equipment to include chillers, freeze, refrigeration, coolers, etc. Confers with supervisors regarding all aspects of assigned duties and responsibilities with University customer/supervisor of requests. Assumes education involving appropriate desktop applications. Promotes a work place culture that encourages safety within the shop and in the field. Operates a University vehicle. This position reports to a Utilities Trades Supervisor/Zone Manager and requires active engagement in learning and practicing principles of social justice and inclusion, environmental sustainability and delivering great customer experience.

High School Diploma, Type 5 CS License and Natural Gas Installer Certification or ability to acquire within six months and three years' experience in HVAC equipment and controls installation, maintenance and repair required, or equivalent combination of education and/or experience. Valid driver's license and driver's check required. Lifting of up to 50 lbs. occasionally. Specific physical requirements may apply based on job functions. Must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while performing specific job tasks.

Hazardous Materials Specialist - Physical Plant Dept. - #5666PQ - Monitor and perform environmental remediation projects involving asbestos, lead, microbial, PCB's, water intrusion and HVAC duct cleaning and other Indoor Air Quality contaminants in accordance with State and Federal regulations and UVM procedures and practices. Maintain knowledge of asbestos and lead safety regulations and current issues and implement accordingly. Perform inspections and investigations of suspect asbestos, lead, microbial, PCB's, water intrusion and HVAC duct cleaning and other Indoor Air Quality contaminants as required. Provide technical assistance within established guidelines in support of safety and training programs. Participating member of the UVM Confined Space Rescue Team. Promote a work place culture which encourages safety within the field and Shop. Operate University vehicle. This position reports to the Hazardous Materials Supervisor and requires active engagement in learning and practicing principles of social justice and inclusion, environmental sustainability and delivering great customer experience.

High School Diploma and four years' experience in field, or equivalent combination of education and/or experience. Specialized certifications and licenses or ability to obtain within six months required. Valid driver's license or ability to obtain and driver's check required. Lifting of up to 50 lbs. occasionally. Must use breathing apparatus. Tobacco users will not be considered due to research that indicates there is a high medical risk when working with asbestos. Specific physical requirements may apply based on job functions.

Master Systems Technicians (2 positions) - Physical Plant Dept. - #5698PQ - This position is responsible for providing highly skilled personnel in first response to service calls, all of building facilities trades expert and systems. Provide assessment of situation and make necessary repairs. Conduct appropriate response of situation mandates either on different trades house or shift out. Perform highly skilled preventative maintenance service for all building/facilities trades. Access information utilizing appropriate desktop applications. Promote a work place that encourages safety within the Shop and field. Operate University vehicle. This position reports to a Zone Supervisor/Zone Manager and requires active engagement in learning and practicing principles of social justice and inclusion, environmental sustainability and delivering great customer experience.

High School Diploma, Vermont State Master Plumbing or Master Electrical License and two years' experience in building/facilities trades required. Basic knowledge of enterprise temperature control systems required. Computer skills required. Valid driver's license required. Specific physical requirements may apply based on job functions. Must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while performing specific job tasks. Initial employment contingent upon successful completion of physical screening. Basic knowledge of fire alarm systems desirable.

Must have the ability to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to workplace diversity, sustainability and delivering exceptional value and great experience to customers.

Assistant Director of Education & Outreach Services - Center for Health and Wellbeing - #5802PQ - The University of Vermont's Center for Health and Wellbeing is seeking applications for the position of Assistant Director of Education & Outreach Services.

Responsibilities: This position will be responsible for providing leadership in the development, planning, implementation, coordination, assessment, and continuous improvement of a comprehensive health & wellness program. Primary responsibilities will include: working with the Division Assessment Coordinator to create evaluations of programs and services; providing education & outreach to students; managing a system for coordinating education and outreach program requests; providing leadership in coordinating a network of on & off campus stakeholders to develop a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to campus wellness; and administrative & financial supervision of staff.

Qualifications: Master's degree in public health, health education, or closely related field. Experience working in education & outreach in a college/university setting preferred. Supervision & project management experience. Knowledge of and the ability to apply health education and prevention principles, theories, and practices to a campus setting. Strong public speaking, program planning, and organizational skills. A commitment to diversity, social justice, and cultural competence, and the ability to work in a multicultural environment.

This is a 12-month full-time position. Salary is commensurate with experience and includes a full benefits package.

Please include cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references. Cover letter should incorporate a brief statement regarding philosophy/commitment to working with issues of diversity and social justice within a University setting.

Assistant Director of Pre-Award - Sponsored Project Administration (SPA) - #5961PQ - Sponsored Project Administration (SPA) of the University of Vermont is seeking an Assistant Director of Pre-Award. SPA is the University's central office that supports administrative activities throughout the life cycle of a grant or contract. We are a dynamic team of 75 staff members with a focus on customer service, compliance, and efficiency. We believe in working hard, team building and fostering a culture of both internal and external collaboration.

The Assistant Director will lead pre-award operations including planning, development and submission of grant and contract proposals; award negotiation and acceptance; and outgoing sub-awards. The Assistant Director will oversee and supervise two Senior Administrators & indirectly oversee five front-line positions. As a member of the senior leadership team, the position will be responsible for the design and improvement of departmental & campus-wide business processes and policies surrounding sponsored projects. The position will coordinate campus-wide roll out of sponsored project policies and procedures and provide training to campus constituents on a variety of topics.

We are looking for candidates with a Bachelor's degree and six years' of nonprofit, higher education experience, or an equivalent combination. Candidates must have experience in the following: budget building, spreadsheet proficiency, research administration and sponsored regulations; customer service; employee recruitment and supervision; a minimum of three years at grant or contract negotiation and excellent oral and written communication skills. In addition, grant presentation skills and experience with enterprise resource planning (ERP/systems) are highly desirable.

The University is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the institution. Applicants are required to include in their cover letter information about how they will further this goal.

For further information on these positions and others currently available, or to apply online, please visit our website at: www.uvmjobs.com; Job Hotline #802-456-1248; telephone #802-456-3198. Applicants must apply for the position electronically. Paper resumes are not accepted. Job positions are updated daily.

The University of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access Employer. Applications from women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and people from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged.



Administrative Assistant

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT LIFE

Provide office reception and administrative support in the Department of Student Life. Help create a welcoming environment for a diverse population of students, staff, faculty and community members, while supporting the department's staff and programs. This position helps visitors, answers phones and emails, and provides scheduling support and support for office processes and systems. Associate's degree and 1-3 years of office experience, and commitment to diversity and social justice required.

For further information and to apply,
search uvmjobs.com for Posting #5563PO.

The University of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Applicants from women and people from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged.

LANE PRESS

JOB FAIR

Thursday, February 16, 2017
12:00pm - 2:00pm
Green Mountain Suites

Lane Press is looking to immediately fill several entry level full time positions. We have openings for 1st, 2nd and 3rd shifts in our Hendry and 2nd and 3rd shifts in our Peterson and offer competitive starting wages as well as generous shift premium. Employees are eligible to participate in our comprehensive benefit package after 90 days of employment which includes medical, dental and vision insurance as well as paid vacation, 401(k), disability, on-site physical therapy services and an amazing health club membership! We provide on the job training and opportunities for advancement.

Please stop by our job fair and meet with a member of our team and complete an employment application. On-site interviews will be conducted.

www.lanepress.com

EOE

Discover the
many advantages of AAA.



JOIN US!

There is a side of AAA that many people don't always see. Take that great travel discounts and roadside assistance. We're a company that can offer you a variety of career opportunities.

New Hiring Insurance Sales Trainers:

Your success is highly valued and this role will help develop the necessary job knowledge and sales skills to be successful as a Sales Agent for AAA. We offer competitive compensation, benefits, poolings and paid training.

If you're a "take charge" individual with some sales background and want to learn more about what AAA has to offer and how you can make a difference with our members, please submit your resume today!

Apply online at AAA.com/careers
Search Keyword: 1361 and 14077

AAA is an Equal Opportunity Employer



SUPERVISOR OF TECHNICAL TRADES HVAC/ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING

Saint Michael's College is seeking a full-time Supervisor of Technical Trades. This position is responsible for the functionality, maintenance, repair and replacement of the MEP systems and commercial kitchens on our 1.4 million square foot campus. With a direct reporting staff of 6 the Supervisor will work closely with many departments, and users, and the other facilities departments to achieve these responsibilities. Preventative maintenance, efficiency, comfort of end users, and a well-managed staff will be the benchmark of the desired candidate.

Benefits include health, dental, vision, life, disability, 401(k), generous paid time off, employee and dependent tuition benefits, and discounted gym membership.

Review of applications will begin on February 16th and continue until position has been filled. An offer of employment will be contingent upon the successful completion of a background and driving record check and pre-employment physical screening.

For full job description and to apply online go to:
smcvt.interviewexchange.com.

Executive Chef

OPPORTUNITY at VERMONT! NAMED ONE OF THE BEST NEW HOTELS BY CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER AND WANGS MAGAZINE, 586 IS A BOUTIQUE HOTEL & BISTRO KNOWN FOR GREAT SERVICE AND CRAFTING SEASONAL MENUS THAT FEATURE VERMONT HIGHLIGHTS.

We're searching for an experienced Chef to lead a kitchen and functions business to the next level. Enjoy your life balance while earning an excellent salary. Qualified chefs are invited to send their resume to generalmanager@centervermontdick.com.



VENDING ROUTE DRIVERS

Burlington
and Brandon

We are looking for motivated, responsible individuals. Must be able to work independently, possess a positive attitude, be capable of lifting up to 50 pounds and have a clean driving record. We offer a competitive wage along with benefits.

Apply in person or online at
FarrellVending.com
405 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
timelivending.com



Docket Clerk B (July 1788)

A permanent full-time position, involves specialized clerical work and data entry involving one or more clerical areas. Located Burlington, VT. High School graduate and two years of clerical, or data entry experience required. Starting at \$14.73 per hr. Open and filled.

Go to
vermontjobbank.org for more details and how to apply.
eg:cv@centralvt.com



Lake Champlain Boat Launch Stewards

The Lake Champlain Basin Program and New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission seek up to 12 part-time Boat Launch Stewards to deliver aquatic invasive species spread prevention messages. Successful applicants are trained to collect Lake Champlain boat launch area information and check boats for aquatic invasive species four days a week, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Job description available at www.lcbp.org or www.nehpcc.org. Send résumé, letter of interest summarizing relevant experience, and two references to NEHWCC via email at jobs@nehwcc.org, subject line: 17-LCBP-002, by March 16, 2017. EOE

ATTENTION RECRUITERS:

POST YOUR JOBS AT SEVENDAYSVT.COM/JOBS FOR FAST RESULTS, OR CONTACT MICHELLE BROWN MICHELLE@SEVENDAYSVT.COM



Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc.

Local Partnership in Learning
Serving Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties

www.cvabe.org

Full-time Position: Teacher/Community Coordinator based in Montpelier

Candidates must have:

- Proven capacity for providing basic skills instruction - reading, writing, math, computer literacy,
- Proven capacity for providing instruction in English Language Learners and preparation for U.S. citizenship,
- Experience with developing personalized education plans,
- Spirit and capacity for outreach and organizing community involvement to support student success,
- Experience with volunteers,
- Familiarity with the service area (Montpelier, East Montpelier, Berlin, Middlebury, Worcester)

CVABE, a community-based, nonprofit organization has served the residents of Washington, Orange and Lamoille counties for 50+ years. Hundreds of central Vermonters enroll annually to improve basic literacy skills, pursue alternative pathways to high school completion, learn English as another language, and gain skills for work and college.

Please submit cover letter, resume and three references by **February 24th** to:

Executive Director
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc.
46 Washington Street, Suite 100
Barnet, Vermont 05641
info@cvabe.org



DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

(LOCATION FLEXIBLE WITHIN CCV ACADEMIC CENTERS)

CCV is looking for a dynamic and energetic Director of the Early Childhood Professional Development System. This role provides direction, leadership, operational management, implementation, and supervision of elements and personnel of the new and expanded Northern Lights Early Childhood Professional Development system (NLECPDS) to be hosted by the Community College of Vermont and funded by federal Child Care Development Funds (CCDF) administered by the Child Development Division (CDD), Department for Children and Families, Agency of Human Services.

Master's degree in Early Childhood Education or related field is required, along with five years of experience in organizational and/or system leadership. Previous experience in early childhood professional development and higher education preferred.

To view the complete posting and apply:
ccv.org/learn-about/ccv/employment

CCV encourages applications from candidates who reflect our diverse student population. CCV is an EOE/AAE employer and equal opportunity employer and will accept no retaliation for individuals with disabilities.



Maintenance Mechanic Technician

Middlebury

Agri-Mark has a full-time immediate opening for a THIRD SHIFT Maintenance Mechanic Technician to work in our Middlebury, VT facility. Flexible work schedule required, including rotating weekends, and working scheduled holidays.

Preferred candidate will have a journeyman's electrical license and/or strong PLC experience. The candidate should be well versed in VFDs, instrumentation, and production plant equipment. Must be able to work both independently and as a team member. Excellent troubleshooting and maintenance plant equipment in a food production environment.

Position provides 40+ hours per week, paid leave, and paid holidays. Agri-Mark offers a competitive starting wage and an excellent benefits package. This includes health, dental and vision insurance, 401(k), pension plan, and much more.

Agri-Mark
Attn: Ashley LeBlanc
400 Exchange Street
Middlebury, VT 05753
808 M/T/W/O



CHALLENGE OPPORTUNITY TRANSFORMATION SOLUTIONS

Join the senior leadership team of passionate innovators at the Carmichael Temporary Shelter (COTS), a nonprofit, nationally recognized as a model for the successful outcomes of our programs. COTS provides emergency shelter, services, prevention resources and housing for those without homes or at risk of homelessness.

Share your talents to help the most vulnerable in our community!

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMING

COTS is seeking a Director of Social Services & Programing to supervise and support our shelter, services and housing teams. This position will coordinate planning and evaluation for our programs, and collaborate effectively with community partners. Reporting to the Executive Director, this position is a critical and integral part of the leadership team. Master's Degree in Social Work or related field required, as well as a minimum of 5 years' experience managing social service staff and programs. Demonstrated leadership in program development also required.

This is a full time position with benefits. Critical thinkers and successful problem solvers will receive best consideration. Please submit your resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to jobs@cotsonline.org. EOE



New England Federal Credit Union

New England Federal Credit Union, Vermont's largest Credit Union with 7 branch locations, is a growing organization committed to excellence in service, convenience, and simplicity. NEFCU offers a stable, supportive, high-standards work environment, where employees are treated as key stakeholders. Please visit our website, www.nefcu.com, to learn more about the great opportunities and benefits that exist at NEFCU.

Mortgage Investor Reporting Specialist

Water Tower Hill, Colchester

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-5

The primary duties of this position are to reconcile monthly mortgage investor & commercial participation remittances and to monitor cash flows to investors. The person in this role will be expected to perform more complex loan transactions within the mortgage servicing system including foreclosures, bankruptcy pre-petition and post-petition payments and short sales. The integrity of the Mortgage Loan Servicing database will be supported through ad hoc reporting and error resolution. The person in this role will also assist the supervisor in identification and resolution of servicing software issues.

It will be helpful for the successful candidate to have knowledge of the mortgage and commercial loan servicing, PHLMC, WHFA and FIDMMPF investor reporting guidelines as well as in depth knowledge of Phoenix, PHLMC Service Loans, and WHFA software applications. In depth loan accounting knowledge, proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel and report writing tools will be necessary to be successful in this position. This person also requires excellent analytical and decision making skills. This position is part of the Mortgage Loan Servicing Group.

Full and Part-time Teller Positions Available Chittenden County Offices

Vermont's largest credit union is growing and has a full-time teller opportunity available for the right person. Preferred candidates will present a responsible work history preferably in a retail environment and be comfortable and skilled with face to face communication.

Successful candidates for this position will provide friendly, fast and accurate service to members. The ability to explain our various products and services as well as the ability to recognize and suggest solutions to our members will be necessary.

This position requires standing and/or sitting at a computerized work station. Daily member interactions include cash handling and processing of all member transactions. Extensive keyboarding and the ability to use multiple system applications are required. This position requires occasional lifting of coins and cash, up to 20 pounds.

Qualified applicants should submit a complete resume and cover letter (hr@nefcu.com) illustrating reasons for interest and further qualification or visit our website to complete an online application.

NEFCU enjoys an employer of choice distinction with turnover averaging less than 10%. More than 96% of our 165 staff say NEFCU is a great place to work. (2016 Annual Staff Survey) if you believe you have the qualifications to contribute to this environment, please send your resume and cover letter and salary history to hr@nefcu.com.

nefcu.com

EEO/AAE



SAFETY MANAGER

This position is responsible for expanding and supporting a City-wide work place culture safe behavior and healthful working conditions for City employees. This position will provide oversight of departmental safety committees and recommend procedures to measure, reduce and eliminate accidents and health hazards through a comprehensive safety loss control program. In addition, the position will serve as a technical resource in planning, organizing and directing safety programs and is responsible for monitoring compliance for the City of Burlington involving regulatory (local, state, and federal) requirements for the purpose of safeguarding employees. This position will work in conjunction with, and serve as a resource to, those responsible for maintaining and ensuring the safety and maintenance of City buildings and facilities and liability insurance administration. The ideal candidate will have 3-5 years of experience in a safety environment/positions required and a Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational or Industrial Hygiene/Safety, Safety Engineering or other related field.

For a complete description, or to apply online, visit
burlington.gov/jobs or contact us at 802.865.7145

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. SEE ADVERTISING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES



FOOD TRUCK ASSISTANT

Have you ever thought of working on a Food Truck? The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity/Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf (CEFS) has a new opportunity for the right individual!

As the largest direct service emergency food provider in Vermont, the CEFS serves over 12,000 people each year. The Good Food Truck Assistant works to prepare and serve meals for the Good Food Truck and Good Food Trailer. The work will require a flexible schedule and have a field component, evening and weekend hours required.

We're looking for a highly motivated individual. Successful candidates will have a High School diploma, or equivalent, and a minimum of three years' culinary experience. ServSafe certification must be obtained within sixty calendar days. Excellent verbal and written communication skills required; bilingual abilities are a plus and the ability to interact pleasantly and effectively with the public, staff, and volunteers.

We offer competitive pay and a great benefit package! Please send a cover letter and resume by email to ghassist@cevo.org. To learn more about this position, please visit www.cevo.org.

CEVO IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Customer Service/Sales

National public service company looking for someone to fit the place!

Does the following sound like you?

- Self Motivated
- Confident
- Must be comfortable with CRM databases (computer work)
- Detail Oriented
- Willing to be on the phone for majority of the day
- Ability to meet weekly goals
- Customer service experience preferred

Send resume to:
careers@nps.gov

nps.gov



THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Event & Scheduling Coordinator

University Event Services,
University of Vermont

Administrate and coordinate scheduling of University space and services utilizing campus scheduling software. Work in a highly collaborative way within variety of departments across campus on the execution of events. Serve as a primary contact for clients with the University Event Services team throughout the event planning process. Bachelor's Degree and 3 years of customer service experience, and commitment to diversity and social justice required.

For further information and to apply, search wwwjobs.com for Posting #5096PO

The University of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Applicants from women and people from diverse racial/ethnic and cultural backgrounds are encouraged.

Goddard College

Located on our beautiful Plainfield, VT campus, we have two staff position openings, both are full time and eligible for our generous benefits package.

SENIOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUPPORT ANALYST

SENIOR STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Position descriptions and application instructions are available here: goddard.edu/about/goddard/employment-opportunities

Community Learning Center Manager
Full-time, Manchester, VT

The Tutorial Center, Inc. is a nationally known nonprofit community education organization. We are seeking a dynamic individual to assume management responsibility for our currently functioning center in Manchester, VT.

The Tutorial Center in Manchester provides a full range of educational services to students, adults, employers and the community. Tutoring grades K-12, SAT/ACT prep, adult basic literacy, English as a Second Language, ESL prep, the High School Completion program, work readiness, workplace literacy technology training, and more.

Duties will include typical management functions, staff hiring and supervision, facility oversight and day-to-day operations, curriculum with schools and businesses, as well as direct student interaction and counseling.

The position is full-time, 40 hours per week, and reports directly to our Executive Director.

Preferred candidates will have:

Management/supervision experience; M.Ed. or adult education experience with budgets, grants, data, and computer skills including databases, spreadsheets and independent as part of management team.

A full job description and additional information can be found on our website: www.tutorialcenter.org/home/jobs.

Interested candidates should email cover letter and resume to: Jack@tutorialcenter.org

THE TUTORIAL CENTER
for everyone. Help People.

www.tutorialcenter.org

The Tutorial Center, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. We are an equal opportunity employer and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information. The Tutorial Center is an equal opportunity employer.



SUMMER CAMP EDUCATORS & FARMYARD EDUCATORS

Shefferson Farms is a nonprofit organization and a 1,400-acre working farm, farm, and National Historic Landmark in Shelburne. We are seeking seasonal Summer Camp Educators, especially those with a life-guard certification, to teach 10 weeks of creative day camp for ages 4-17. Additionally, we're recruiting educators with an interest in farm-based education and agriculture systems to teach in the Children's Farmyard from May - October.

To learn more about these positions, visit sheffersonfarms.org/about/jobs-volunteers.

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Milton, VT 05468
Job Hotline: 660-3308

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Spring Job Fairs

Tuesdays, February 21 & 28
and March 7 & 14
3:00-5:30 PM

We have SEASONAL distribution center positions through JUNE

www.gardeners.com

Download our job application TODAY and bring the completed form to our job fair!

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sevendaystv.com/classifieds



VERMONT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Serves as primary point of contact for VITL internal and external clients, with responsibilities including technical support for Windows operating systems, desktop hardware, printers and peripherals, Office 365 applications and other desktop applications

CONTRACTS ADMINISTRATOR

Manages the organization's procurement and contract management systems, and works with the State of Vermont, customers and subcontractors. The contracts administrator will maintain VITL's contract/agreement milestone/deliverable system, and maintain the correspondence record for all grants, contracts and subcontracts.

PROJECT MANAGER

Responsible for the planning and execution of health information technology, interface deployment and data quality projects related to the Vermont Health Information Exchange. The project manager will utilize a structured methodology to plan and implement projects and when required, analyze organization of systems and processes, and make recommendations for operational improvements.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES MANAGER

Provides front-line leadership for VITL's technical support team, and for the hardware and software support needs of VITL staff. Additionally, the technical support services manager will work closely with VITL's client services and operations teams, to ensure client satisfaction and successful long-term business relationships.

For a detailed job description go to the Careers section on the VITL website at vitl.net/about/careers. To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to hr@vitl.net.

NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.

VERMONT NATURAL COATINGS

Customer Sales and Service

Seeking an engaging, savvy person, dedicated to our sustainable mission, to support and expand our network of loyal customers by providing exceptional customer service and sales initiatives

More info at VermontNaturalCoatings.com/employment-opportunities

Senior Community Banker Burlington, College Street Branch

Northfield Savings Bank is seeking a professional with a strong financial background to join our Community Banking team as a Senior Community Banker in our College Street Branch (Parking space provided). This position offers an excellent opportunity to work for a premier Vermont Mutual Savings Bank that offers a cohesive, friendly and respectful working environment.

This position provides account services to customers including opening new accounts, processing customer requests for changes to existing accounts, interviewing consumer loan applicants, and home equity applications. Other duties include mentoring employees, assisting in branch operations, maintaining and administering compliance of all operating policies and procedures.

Successful candidates will have excellent customer service, communication and organizational skills, strong leadership qualities, knowledge of banking regulations, consumer lending and experience with computer applications. The selected candidate must register with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System. A Bachelor's degree is preferred and 3-5 years branch experience is required.

Northfield Savings Bank is a mutual, depositor owned organization and one of the largest banks headquartered in Vermont. NSB offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package including medical, dental, profit sharing and a matching 401(k) retirement program.

If you are interested in joining the NSB team please submit your resume and job application to: careers@nsbv.com (PREFERRED)

Or mail

Northfield Savings Bank
Human Resources
PO Box 7180
Barre, VT 05641-7180

Equal Opportunity Employer/Member FDIC



Northfield
SAVINGS BANK





Northeastern Family Institute

Providing innovative mental health and educational services to Vermont's children and families.

Weekend Residential Counselor

Allenbrook Group Home

NFI VT's Allenbrook Group Home is looking for a part time Residential Counselor to work Friday and Sunday 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. and Saturday 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Additional hours available if desired. Qualified candidates will hold a valid driver's license and possess basic skills required to manage a house and parent teenagers. Criminal background check required. Please submit cover letter and resume to jennifer.nfi@nfi.com

Special Educator

The Arlington School, St. Johnsbury

The Arlington School is looking for a special educator to join our team. We are an approved independent school that serves students in grades K-12 who need an alternative setting to traditional high school and may require therapeutic support. The Arlington School is managed by Northeastern Family Institute of Vermont (www.nfi-vermont.org)

We seek a creative licensed special educator to provide small group and individual instruction both in and out of the classroom, as well as case management. Our special educator is responsible for implementation of IEP goals, must have knowledge of the IEP process and understand Medicaid billing. Successful candidate must be flexible, have knowledge of emotional and behavioral challenges, be available to support kids consistently as well as behaviorally and be a team player. Master's level and two years of experience preferred, along with a valid VT special education endorsement/ license. Consideration may be given to licensed teachers who have interest in becoming special educators and qualify for a professional license. Send resume, letter of interest and three references to: Suzanne Masford, Reg. Dir. suzanne.masford@nfi.com

Community Integration Specialists

SIGN ON BONUS!

White River Program

Seeking motivated, creative, & skilled people to join our team in promoting Mental Health services to children, youth & families in the greater Hartford, Vermont area. The ideal candidate is a skilled communicator with a desire to help kids & families, & ability to provide respectful role modeling. Position provides the opportunity to work directly with children & youth who experience emotional & behavioral challenges. Experience working with children & a knowledge of the effects of trauma appreciated. Training & supervision will be provided in this benefited position. Bachelor's degree is required. Please submit a cover letter & resume to Stephanie.Unlath@nfi.com or call (802) 293-4600

Foster Parents & Respite Providers

WETTSBORO

Make a difference in the life of a child! NFI is seeking Vermont homes to support children in need. A sense of humor, flexibility & willingness to work as a team are essential. We are also seeking weekend respite providers. If you are a VT home in the Greater Hartford Area or in Chittenden or Franklin

"Make a difference in the life of a child!" NFI Vermont, a leader in specialized trauma and adolescent development, is looking to expand our team of innovators. Full time and part time positions available. Competitive wages, training opportunities, flexible work schedules and family oriented culture. Excellent benefits with tuition reimbursement offered for 30 or more hour employees.

counties, please contact Jodie Clarke at 802-658-3924 x 1028 or email jodie.clarke@nfi.com

NFI Hospital Diversion Program

The NFI Hospital Diversion program is hiring for an Interim Program Clinician and a Residential Counselor, both full time positions. Hospital Diversion is a short term, inpatient facility providing crisis stabilization, clinical consultation, individual treatment and discharge planning in a small, safe residential setting. If interested, please send your resume and cover letter to Anne Peterson at anepeterson@nfi.com

Interim Program Clinician position covers a four month leave of absence with the potential for an ongoing full-time program clinician position. The program clinician is a multifaceted position to include: clinical consultation with community members, verbal clinical assessments/mental status evaluations, family and treatment team meetings, supervision of residential counselors, coordination of referral and participation on the leadership team. The ideal candidate will possess a master's degree in counseling, social work or a related field and have significant experience working with adolescents who have mental health and/or behavioral challenges. The candidate must work well in crisis, be flexible, collaborative and function in a fast-paced environment, have the ability to navigate the system of care, and multi-task effectively.

Residential Counselors provide supervision and support to youth, as well as provide a sense of safety and security. Superior interpersonal skills and ability to function well in a team atmosphere and a B.A. in psychology or related field required.

Family Engagement Specialist

St. Albans

Coordinators work directly with children & families involved with DCF, who experience multi-system issues, including substance abuse, domestic violence, & mental health challenges. Responsibilities include coordinating and facilitating large meetings, working with community service providers, creating treatment plans through collaboration with DCF, & parent education. We are looking for candidates with strong communication & documentation skills, who work well in a team setting. Experience with Family Time Coaching, Family Safety Planning & Family Group Conferencing preferred. This fulltime position with a \$500 sign on bonus requires a Bachelor's degree &/or two years' experience in a related field. Please submit cover letter & resume to lessacomm@nfi.com.



Developmental Services

Seeking Shared Living Provider(s)

Seeking Positive Shared Living Provider(s) to support a self-aware, 22-year-old who enjoys socializing, art, writing and baking. This individual is looking for an open-minded provider(s) able to set firm, but kind, expectations, and create a calm and safe environment for them and their two cats. Providers without dogs are ideal. Female provider(s) preferred due to shared living space. Compensation: \$32,000 tax free annual stipend.

Interested candidates contact info@howardcenter.org or call 488-6565.



MANSFIELD HALL
The premier hub for life

Mansfield Hall is an innovative residential college support program for students with diverse learning needs.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LIFE

Seeking a person with the dynamic skill-set to supervise direct service staff, case manage and coach students, partner with parents, and build a cohesive team and strong community. The ideal candidate will possess a master's degree in social work or in a related field, have residential program experience, a background in mental health and/or educational programming, strong writing skills, and a commitment to ongoing professional development.

Applicant information available at:
mansfieldhall.org/employment
Apply: jennifer@mansfieldhall.org



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Community Board
AmeriCorps offices

- an annual award
- health insurance
- an education award
- training opportunities
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HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER COORDINATOR

GHRS is looking for a seasoned leader to head our award-winning Housing Resource Center. This program oversees homeless prevention and re-housing initiatives and a portfolio of financial tools for those in need of housing assistance. The HRC Coordinator's primary responsibilities are to oversee and manage program staff and budget; identify emerging trends and develop strategies to meet them; collaborate with a broad network of state and local partners; enhance our network of local business and landlord relationships; and expand and oversee the portfolio of tools for those with little or no credit or poor landlord references.

The ideal candidate will have demonstrated success in creating strategic alliances, leveraging resources, and developing or enhancing new programs. Bachelor's degree in an appropriate discipline is required, plus four to six years' experience in business, project management, budgeting and finance, and knowledge of housing issues and resources.

The successful candidate will have an entrepreneurial spirit and a track record of professional success, supervisory experience and a commitment to the GHRS mission required.

This is a full time position with benefits. If interested, submit your resume, cover letter and salary requirement to:
jobs@cobanline.org.

EDS



Champlain Community Services

Champlain Community Services is a progressive, intimate, developmental services provider agency with a strong emphasis on self-determination values and employee & consumer satisfaction.

Transportation Position

Are you looking for an awarding experience that helps people be independent and lead a fulfilling life? Champlain Community Services and the Way2Work program is seeking a part time team member to provide employment transportation to individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism. The ideal candidate understands the value of inclusion and has the desire to support their community in an area of great need. If you are interested in joining our person-centered team, please send your resume and cover letter to Michelle Pajo at mpajo@ccs-vt.org.

Shared Living Provider

CCS is seeking applicants to provide home supports to a kind, humorous gentleman who enjoys being involved in the community and in social settings. The ideal candidate will be patient, flexible and have strong interpersonal and communication skills. This position includes a generous stipend, ongoing support, respite and a complete home training package. Contact Jennifer Macdon at 855-9511 x318 for more information.

Community Inclusion Facilitator

Provide one on one inclusion supports to anyone, active individual who enjoys being creative, socializing with others and working. This 32 hour per week position is fully benefited and is a great opportunity to work in a fun, supportive environment. Send your resume and cover letter to Karen Gachowicz at staff@ccs-vt.org

CCS-01-2017



Communications Specialist (Dispatcher)

Colchester Police Department is seeking to immediately fill the position of Communications Specialist (Dispatcher)

This position requires the ability to work different shifts as well as weekends and holidays. The successful candidate will demonstrate an ability to work under pressure and multi task often difficult situations. Excellent pay and benefits package are offered.

For more information and application, please visit colchestervt.gov/2611/poll-or-department-or-contact

U.S. Douglas Allen
835 Flakely Road
Colchester, VT 05446
802-264-5541

douglas.allen@colchesterpolvt.org

COLCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT IS AN EOE



Residential Housekeeper

Looking for someone who is dependable, has reliable vehicle, very detailed, great with people, has a passion for cleaning and off-and-on great work ethic. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., (about 30-36 hours a week) will pay according to your abilities. Please send resume to judiciele@comcast.net



Technical Services

25 hours/week
Cataloging experience, MLS or VT certification preferred. Excellent customer service and computer skills required. See www.lib.vt.edu for more information. Resume and three reference contacts to:

Marti Hildebrand

Director
marth@lib.vt.edu 31st st
21 Library Lane
Williston, VT 05495

Happy Tails

Pet Resorts and Spas

PET CAREGIVER

Seeking an energetic, conscientious and motivated employee to be responsible for the daily care of our guests (dogs and cats). Experience with both experience required.

Send resumes to:

customerservice@happytailsvt.com

happytailsvt.com



It's not a job... it's a lifestyle

Spring is just around the corner! We're looking for avid gardeners, reliable and quick learners who are enthusiastic, outgoing, upbeat, flexible, team-oriented and who will thrive in a busy store! Ability to work weekends is a must.

Gardener's Supply Garden Center Job Fair

Thursdays, February 23, March 2nd & 9th - 3:00 - 5:30 PM
Williston Garden Center: 402 Marshall Avenue, Williston

Full and part-time positions available in Burlington & Williston

Inside Customer Service Associates: Customer service, gardening knowledge and POS experience: strongly preferred

Outside Customer Service: Positions available in all departments: wholesale, nursery, perennials and annuals: excellent service skills and horticultural knowledge required

Wholesale Sales Coordinator: Customer service, landscaping knowledge and POS experience: strongly preferred

Campus Gardeners: Gardening experience required

Yard Associates: experience with heavy equipment & valid driver's license required

Delivery & Installation Associates: Landscaping experience preferred, valid driver's license

Live Goods & Hard Goods Receivers: Inventory experience, strong attention to detail required

For more information, call our jobs hotline: 663-3234 or www.gardeners.com. Download our job application TODAY and bring it to our job fair!



VT Tenants Housing Education Supervisor

The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity's (CVVOO) VT Tenants Program (VTP) seeks an experienced, energetic, and committed individual with a high degree of initiative to join our team as the Housing Education Supervisor.

The Housing Education Supervisor is responsible for managing the ongoing operation of the Tenant Hotline, provide education and outreach services to VT landlords and tenants, will be the lead educator responsible teaching basic rights and responsibilities to tenants and landlords in workshop settings; responsible for advising, updating, providing oversight and support of our tenant training materials; monitor and report on the effectiveness of hotline services and give input to the Program Director on potential improvements; and provide direct services to clients as needed.

Successful applicants will have a Bachelor's degree in education, business or human services with 2+ years in lead experience - personnel training desired; general knowledge of VSA, 9, 11, and 14 or a minimum of 2 years' experience working with tenants, landlords and housing issues related issues; and the ability to communicate with, supervise, and empower employees to be effective in their roles - Supervisory experience preferred. Strong preference given to applicants fluent in a native language shared by our refugee/harassment community.

This is a 40 hour per week position with health insurance and excellent benefits. To apply please send a cover letter and resume to: VTPager13@cvvo.org. Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until suitable candidates are found.

To learn more about this position, please visit www.cvvo.org

CVVOO is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Property Manager

Established firm seeks experienced person to manage senior living community in Chittenden County.

This position is part-time, 25 hours per week, Monday-Friday

Job requires excellent people and communication skills, as well as experience with Excel, Word and Word Perfect. Property management experience preferred.

Salary \$18-\$20 per hour depending on experience

Please forward cover letter and resume by email to: **STEPHANIE CASAVANT** HR Provider
Coburn & Feeley Property Management

scasavant@coburnandfeeley.com



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information or send a
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joes@rivallee.com
to set up an interview.**

Maplefields University
811 Wilston Road
South Burlington

Maplefields Colchester
414 Roosevelt Highway
Colchester

Maplefields at Georgia
1207 Ethan Allen Highway
Georgia

Essex Maplefields
72 Upper Main Street
Essex

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The newly formed Montpelier
Development Corporation
(MDC) is hiring an Executive
Director. For a complete
position description,
as well as information on
how to apply, please see
montpelierdev.org/123V
essex-edictos.

Reporting to the Board of
Directors of the MDC, the
MDC Executive Director
will work closely with local
government, non-business
and organized labor, to assist
unfunded entrepreneurs
and already existing firms to
establish, relocate, or expand
their businesses within the
City of Montpelier, Vermont.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



YWCA VT Camp Hodgelegis
is hiring for positions on beautiful
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camp committed to fun and
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Vermont



SENIOR NETWORK ENGINEER

This position is responsible for planning, engineering,
and maintaining all of the City of Burlington's
networks and server infrastructure. Insuring the
stability, integrity, and efficient operation of systems.
This responsibility includes developing, configuring,
maintaining, supporting and optimizing all new and
existing related hardware, software and peripherals. This
Senior Network Engineer is responsible for maintaining
the network and applications that support activities
across the majority of City departments, and over 22
locations, as well as coordinating and supporting network
administration activities across City departments.
The ideal candidate will have Bachelor of Science in
Computer Science, IT or related field, five (5) years
experience in IT LAN/Server environment, strong
experience with current MS Windows OS and server
technologies, and professional certification(s) such as
CCNA, MSCE, or RHCE.

For a complete description, or to apply online, visit
burlingtonvt.gov/jobs or contact us at 802.865.7145.

SEE BURLINGTON, VERMONT FOR MORE INFORMATION. BURLINGTON, VERMONT



OFFICE OF VERMONT

Office Administrator

EyeCare of Vermont is
a private Optometric
practice with offices
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seeking self-motivated
and flexible applicants
who can multi-task
effectively in a fast-paced
office environment.
Our ideal candidate is
friendly, professional,
and focused on excellent
patient care. Applicants
should be comfortable
using a variety of
computer systems.
Experience in customer
service or administrative
settings is preferred.
This position is full-time
M-F 8:00-5:00 with
a possibility of some
Tuesday evenings until
7:00. Interested parties
should email resumes to
apne@eyecareofvt.com.

Summer Camp Staff



Seeking Camp Staff

Nurse

Cook

Counselors

Lifeguards

Nature Educators

We are a small day and
weekend summer camp on
130 acres on Lake Champlain.
Burlington, has a highly
motivated and creative
team of leaders.

Contact Sherry Osborn,
director at sherry@summercampvt.org
summercampvt.org

**HOWARD
CENTER**
Help is here.**Crisis Assessment Clinician — First Call for Chittenden County**

"New position" featured in challenging and rewarding work! Join this well-supported, growing team of professionals. Provide high-quality assessment to children and adults experiencing a mental health emergency. Clinicians are mobile throughout Chittenden County responding to homes, schools, the hospital, police departments and other community locations. Master's in a mental health field required, license or licensure track strongly preferred. This is a full-time position with alternate hours — inquire for details. \$41,000-59, plus additional \$2,000 for licensure. [job_id# 3648](mailto:job_id#3648), 3725 [job_id# 3726](mailto:job_id#3726)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**Building Cleaning Services Technician**

Seeking a dependable individual to complete special projects and to substitute when coworkers are absent. Special projects include shampooing carpets, waxing floors and cleaning windows. Must have a flexible schedule. Valid driver's license and transportation required. [job_id# 3710](mailto:job_id#3710)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES**Chief of Security Services — HUB**

Perform supervisory and administrative tasks in developing, implementing and managing the security and safety of those at the Chittenden Clinic. This includes physical security of all, access to the facility and dining, visitor management, security cameras, alarm systems, policy and procedure development as it pertains to safety and emergency preparedness, staff training, and coordination of all required emergency drills and de-escalation. FT (\$30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.). [job_id# 3722](mailto:job_id#3722)

Lakeview Program Coordinator/Nurse

Seeking compassionate, hardworking nurse to provide recovery focused support to adults with mental illnesses occurring substance use challenges living in our Lakeview Community Care Home. This position includes supervision of Residential Counselors, Cooks and Substance Staff. We are seeking someone who is patient and empathetic who will be a leader and role model for staff and work collaboratively with a larger supervisory team. Strong on call availability required. Excellent benefits and paid time off RN State of Vermont licensure required. Come join our team! FT. [job_id# 3717](mailto:job_id#3717)

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Services Navigator

Seeking individual to provide coordinated care to individuals with opioid addiction as part of the MAT Integration Project team. Work collaboratively with community partners in order to increase access and services for clients engaged with, or seeking entry into, the Hub and Spoke model of care. At least two years' experience in health care, social services and/or research, experience with addiction and mental health treatment services, knowledge of community resources, and experience in screening and counseling skills. Experience navigating the health care system, referrals to social services and accessing insurance are preferred. Strong organizational, communication and group skills, sensitivity to participants' concerns, ability to work independently and as a member of a team, and a commitment to diversity and serving the needs of a diverse community. FT benefits-eligible position. [job_id# 3639](mailto:job_id#3639)

CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**Clinician — School & Home**

Howard Center's School Services Program currently has several full-time School Services Clinician positions open throughout Chittenden County. Our program has long-standing partnerships with schools and uses a clinical social work model to offer therapeutic and case management services for students, families and communities. Strong supervisory support is a top priority for the leadership team. Applicants must have backgrounds in social work, psychology or mental health counseling and must be licensed or mental health license eligible. \$41,000-50, plus additional \$2,000 for licensure. [job_id# 3646](mailto:job_id#3646), 3675, 3670 [job_id# 3687](mailto:job_id#3687)

Howard Center offers an excellent benefits package, including health, dental, and life insurance, as well as generous paid time off for all regular positions scheduled 20 plus hours per week.

For more information, please visit howardcentercareers.org.

Howard Center is an equal-opportunity employer. Applicants needing assistance or an accommodation in completing the online application should feel free to contact Human Resources at 488-6950 or help@howardcenter.org.

eat this week

TASTY BITS FROM THE CALENDAR AT SEVENDAYSVT.COM



Think Globally, Act Locally

This year's Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont annual winter conference not only showcased to francis Vermont's local food strengths and the challenges in a global context, but also brought together hundreds of farmers, food justice advocates, policymakers and policy makers from Vermont and beyond. Topics such as farm-to-school farming (benefit generally), government involvement, national marketing for happiness and industry production in restaurants and workplaces, green by food and ag industry leaders. There is talk from food and farm education and some of Vermont's organic farming pioneers—and don't miss Sarah's keynote from internationally renowned scholar and food-sovereignty activist Dr. Wendell Steier.

NOVA-VT WINTER CONFERENCE: Saturday, February 18, through Monday, February 20, various times. University of Vermont, Burlington, \$30-\$65, plus cost of lunch, pre-register, seats are welcome, no charge.

HUANE BEER COMPANY
TAP TAKEOVER: Hop heads go gaga for Huane Beer's delicious, web-coffee-flavored. Glad ingredients of fruit and pine in an early beer dubbed Mo, or Indigo, a trade for seltzer, dandelion, and chocolate with a glass of Mean Old Tare American stout. Wednesday, February 15, 4-7 p.m., The Archery Burlington. Cost of food and drink. huanebeer.com

VERMONT SPIRITS
CIDER & CRANT BLEND: We're up to speed on our apple-cider with local sweet, 100% 100% whiskey supply and up from Citrus Cider. Spiciness, light, Greenfield-Meadow and 14th Star Brewing, among others. Saturday, February 18, noon to 4 p.m., Six Quince Queer Club. \$5. quinceclub.com

BOULE LANDSCAPING
FRUITS, NUTS AND BERRIES FOR YOUR VERMONT YARD: Grow food and flower! Grow the best of both. Josiah Holberg-Pull of Dig In Farm provides plants and ideas to transform your yard into a perennial source of sustenance. Sunday, February 19, 4 p.m., Room 102, Aaron Center, University of Vermont, Burlington. Free. 888-6440. diginfarm.com

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Bitter Remedy

Using an Urban Moonshine guide, a reporter experiments with DIY bitters

BY MOLLY ZAPP

Herbalists and creative drinkers looking for a crafty activity this winter are in luck. In *DIY Bitters: Reviving the Forgotten Flavor*, Urban Moonshine cofounders Guido Masi and Joyval King offer a detailed guide to making your own tinctures and bitters. Essentially, they tell you how to make your own versions of the artisanal products that their Burlington-based company sells.

This tincture-making reporter found *DIY Bitters* well designed and user-friendly, an excellent introduction to the centuries-old intersection of herbalism and boozy conviviality. Masi and King profile the properties and tincturing processes of nearly 100 herbs, then give recipes for bitters blends made from those tinctures.

"The basic bitter formula consists of something bitter, something aromatic that has a fever-reducing or perspiration-inducing quality, a stomachic that binds it together and makes it more salivary, and maybe some sweetness," Masi told me as I shopped for herbs at Burlington Apothecary on Burlington's Entry Street.

When choosing which herbs to include, Masi said, he and King consider both their flavors and their medicinal properties. Burdock root is a fine bitter base, but what about using *asparagus* instead, which boasts immunity? "Once you let yourself stretch the definition of what 'bitter' is, you open up the ingredient choice dramatically," Masi said. From the proponent outland in the book, he said, "The herbalists will learn how to formulate something delicious, the bartenders will



learn about the medicinal utility of the things they're putting in their drinks."

A tincture is a solution of a medicinal substance in alcohol. Although the tincture-making process is similar for most herbs, crucial details vary, including the optimal proof of alcohol, the quantity of herbs and the steeping time. A tincture made from fresh rose petals can be extracted in 400-proof spirit in just 10 minutes; dried dandelion root should steep in 80-proof spirits for three weeks. Many of the recipes in *DIY Bitters* call for three weeks of dried herb or root in 12 ounces of alcohol, but some require less of the herb. All tinctures should be shaken every five days until they're ready to strain.

THE MAIN HERBS YOU'RE GOING TO REACH FOR ARE VERY SAFE AND VERY USEFUL.

JOYVAL KING

In an interview at Urban Moonshine, King said it's safe to compost the spent herbs. Your compost pile won't become a fire hazard, since alcohol evaporates quickly, and critters that eat the leftover won't get alcohol or herbal poisoning.

The Moonshiners strongly encourage readers to tincture each herb individually and then combine the tinctures to make bitters blends. Unlike the folk method of mixing herbs in a jar, covering them with vodka and straining them after a month, individual tincturing allows for optimal extraction and adjustment of bitters recipes according to taste.

I learned that the hard way when I used the folk method to make a sleep-aid tincture with passionflower, chamomile, skullcap and valerian. Valerian's scent evokes dog-dold roadside cold in mind, and the root is best used with a light hand. Mine was heavy, and the result tasted like something I created to punish myself.



By contrast, I was pleased with the digestif I made using the full method: anise, star anise, cinnamon, cardamom and black pepper steeped in 80-proof vodka. But the more I tinkered later using the suggested 150-proof was significantly more aromatic. Lesson learned: Tincture herbs individually and correctly; bitters can yield respectable results. The price of herbs, liquor and citruses can add up, spending \$35 on a guide book is well worth it.

Bitters making is for people who enjoy the process, including a few debates. The optimal alcohol proof in which individual herbs should be extracted varies from 80 to 150, for instance, and finding 150-proof alcohol in Vermont is a task in itself. Baccard's 151 was recently discontinued, and this reporter has not found 150-proof spirits for sale. The best option for making high-proof tinctures is to buy 160-proof neutral grain spirits and dilute.

To make 12 ounces of 150-proof alcohol, measure about nine and a half ounces of 160-proof liquor and add enough water to total 12 ounces. In Vermont, liquor stores must keep neutral grain spirits behind the counter, and not all stores stock it. Boppers are required to fill out paperwork for the Department of Liquor Control that includes their identifying information and "purpose for which alcohol will be used." "Making tinctures" is a legally acceptable response, "drinking" is not.

For Vermonters who want organic spirits, the only DIY option, besides ordering in five-gallon increments online and paying for shipping, is to contact Still Thyme Spirits and pick up half-gallon quantities of organic 150-proof neutral spirits from its Middlesex location. If the all sounds too involved, you can create bitters from purchased tinctures.

Or try one of the recipes in *Bitters* that don't contain alcohol. I like a lemon ginger purée or three when I feel stressed, after a meal or before bedtime. After a less-sweet mix, the slightly numbing purée do for me when cigarettes once did. They provide comfort and ease conversation, satisfy an itch, and are mentally both-forming and a cooling thing to offer someone you want to impress.

Moss wants: "I want to know that the herb's bitters recipe 'was just a starting point.' He encourages readers to experiment, to add in their deep blends beloved. The bitter part should be only about one-third of the volume."

"Herbals are very similar to cooking," King noted. "There are a lot of different ways to do it. People can get kind of rigid and think about herbs in the same way they think about drugs. They're not drugs."

She suggested that building herbals into meals to make a bitters blend to aid digestion, a sleep remedy and a stress formula. "The main herbs you're going to reach for are very safe and very useful," King said. "There are very few side effects, if any, with the herbs we put in the book."

Moss, who has been a practicing herbalist for 17 years, and the information about herbal properties in *Bitters* comes from traditional knowledge, contemporary pharmacological clinical studies and meta-analyses, as well as from his own observations in his clinical herbal practice. Herbs can help manage chronic medical conditions, especially cardiovascular



BITTERS RECIPES BY GUIDO MASÉ

Urban Moonshine chief tincturist Guido Masé created some timely custom bitters blends just for *Seven Days*. Here the bitters individually using the methods described in *Bitters*, alongside individual tinctures. Each blend makes 30 milliliters (one ounce).

Resend Bitters

Worried about the state of our nation? I created Resend Bitters with American herbs in mind. It includes Tonicwine to get the anger out, lemon before to uplift, orange to bridge the gap between the bitter and citrusy notes, and licorice for the heart.

ingredients

Artichoke leaf tincture 7 ml
Ginger root tincture 8 ml
Lemon balm tincture 8 ml
Licorice 10 ml
Hawthorn berry tincture 5 ml

Place ingredients into bottle and shake well. Add a bit to sparkling or warm water; mix with vodka or brandy, or add to Negroni.

Salt, Pungent Bitters

These bitters will make your meals sizzle, show how you feel the herbs act as diuretic and support kidney health. This blend includes catnip, which is known as doing things which a certain herb in traditional Chinese medicine.

ingredients

Angelica tincture 10 ml
Queen Anne's lace tincture 5 ml
Ginseng root tincture 5 ml
Hawthorn berry 5 ml
Catnip or Sundew root tincture 7 ml

Place ingredients into bottle and shake well. Add a few drops to a dirty martini, or add to a bit of warm water for an after-dinner drink.

disease, diabetes and obesity, Moss elaborated. Many of his clients notice improvement in their digestion, he said.

King stressed that bitters have the most impact when we take them regularly over time. She advises "tasting" their consumption to daily routines, for example, take an emerging tonic when grinding coffee in the morning, or bitters when cooking in the evening. Or substitute bitters for sweets when a sugar craving arises. Bitters have markedly improved her digestion, King said, and regular use of Urban Moonshine's Summer Dandelion has helped her cope with stress and diminished the dark circles under her eyes.

Six weeks of experimenting with making my own bitters and taking them daily has made me feel like I'm engaging in a regular physical self-care. Bitters have expanded my palate and increased my appreciation for different flavors and sensations, which in turn has broadened my cooking choices.

I like the conviviality of sharing bitters, too, as they keep my partner and me lingering in the dinner table to up-date. My sleep is starting to improve, my stress levels eased. How much of that can be attributed to bitters, and how much to yoga, meditation or the placebo effect, I don't know. But I've noticed that my previously low interest in sugary foods and drinks is now nearly nonexistent.

More evident is the effect of bitters on my stomach. If words were gone for healthy digestion, I would receive a gold star every day. ☺

INFO

Bitters Reviewing the Forgotten Flavor — A Guide to Making Your Own Bitters for Remedy or Cocktail Enhancers, by Guido Masé and Moss by Guido Masé and David King, 208 pages. Fall Winds Press, \$26.99.

Relayed Apothecary Burlington relayedapothecary.com

Still Thyme Spirits, Middlesex stillthymespirits.com

calendar

FEBRUARY 15-22, 2012

WED. 15

activism

BUILDING EMPATHY & MODELING RACIAL

OPPRESSION Weekly workshops on topics such as white fragility and interpersonal bias. **Building Empathy Leadership Conference**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. **Registration:** buildingsympathy.com. Info: 800-234-0145

art

FIGURE DRAWING Artists sharpen their skills at observation of the human form. **Chaffin Art Center**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$20. 35. **Registration:** chaffinart.com. Info: 735-8555

business

KELLEY HARTLEY'S GROUP BREAKFAST

MIXING Professionals in marketing, advertising and communications industries meet for breakfast on Thursdays. **Room 207** **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7-45 (a.m. Free. Info: 334-4881)

HARKENING ON A SHORT STORY

Experienced authors teach participants through the art of listening and reading. **Center for Women's Enterprise**, Burlington, 5-10 p.m., \$20. **Registration:** centerforwomensenterprise.com. Info: 333-4152

comedy

STAND-UP BY BOB AND LAUREL Stand-up comics Jamie Lovett returns, performing with fellow performers David Averbach, David Averbach, Paul Chaffin and others. **Comedy Works**, Burlington, 7-9 p.m. \$10. Info: 561-5862

community

COMMUNITY DINNER Representatives of the Windsor School Board and the City of Windsor give a joint budget presentation while locals dig into an evening meal. **Office/Community Center**, Windsor, 5-7 p.m. Free. Info: 438-6988

CLUBBING EVENTS COORDINATION Network by subject matter for the night. Info: www.clubbingevents.com. **Dancing** **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 11 p.m. Free. Info: 333-4881

PUBLIC MEETING Local pipe up on environmental issues. **Montpelier City Council** in **Swanton**. Also during evening with the Vermont Agency of Transportation. **Swanton Municipal Complex**, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 868-3331

crafts

GROUP IN QUALITY STUDIO Adult and teen models and instructors make patchwork quilts.

Ellen Art, Montpelier, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Registration:** ellenart.com. Info: 868-3331

KNITTING & MORE CABLES Workshops of all skill levels. Call or visit the site. **Community Center** in **Swanton**. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 6-9 p.m. Free. Info: 334-0880

dance

10/UP IN 10/UP DANCE Beginners are welcome at a series of sessions on the weekend. **Swanton**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., \$10. Info: 334-0880

YOGA LACE The local lace community, past and present, will be on a journey of discovery. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7 p.m. \$6-8. Free. Info: 334-0880

education

LIFE AFTER DEATH All are welcome to discuss what lies beyond the veil. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m., \$10. Info: 334-0880

ONE-ON-ONE GENEALOGY HELP Take family with family tree. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m., \$10. Info: 334-0880

VOLUNTEER MEET & MEET Helping hands are needed and there are many opportunities to be of service. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m., \$10. Info: 334-0880

film

THE HANGOVER PART II Directed by Todd Phillips. **Interlock Building**, 1000 Main St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m., \$10. Info: 334-0880

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Getting the Dirt

For its 35th annual winter conference, the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont is taking a global perspective. Farmers, gardeners and local food enthusiasts converge for three days of learning rooted in the theme "Beyond Borders: Our Role in the Global Food Movement." Participants will up their sleeves for more than 300 workshops on topics such as indigenous agriculture in the Northeast and adapting to drought, an exhibitor fair, an organic seed swap, and a community art project. Future food producers get in on the farm-fresh fun at the Children's Conference, featuring hands-on activities, yoga, and outdoor play. Keynote speakers include local sustainability advocate Vandana Shiva and Colleen Goodman and former Vermont Governor. **Registration:** www.northeastorganicfarming.org. Info: 254-3880



NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF VERMONT WINTER CONFERENCE Saturday, February 18, 8 a.m., and Sunday, February 19, 8 a.m., and Monday, February 20, 8 a.m., at University of Vermont in Burlington. \$100-400. **Registration:** www.northeastorganicfarming.org. Info: 254-3880

FEB 18-20 AGRICULTURE



FEB 18-20 MUSIC **LET IT BE: A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES** Sunday, February 19, 7 p.m., at Paramount Theatre in Rutland. \$40. Info: 735-0881

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Toilet Humor

In an 1899 essay, Oscar Wilde wrote, "Life imitates art far more than art imitates life." Such is the case with Greg Kinnear and Mark Taperman's acclaimed comedy *Drunkness*. The musical, which, 35 years after its premiere, bears a notable resemblance to current events. Staged by the Dartmouth College Department of Theater, this Tony Award winner is not only a hilarious satire of musical theater but a serious examination of corporate influence, environmental issues and political theories. Professor Jamie Horton directs a 25-member cast, which integrates sleight of a world in which science is under corporate control and science must pay to use patented restrictions. A panel discussion on Tuesday delves into the play's relevance to today's world.

FEB. 17-19 • THEATER

URINETOWN: THE MUSICAL!

Fri-Sat, February 17, and Sunday February 18, 8 p.m., and Sunday February 18, 2 p.m., at Hesser Theater, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. See website for additional info. \$10-18. Info: 603-646-2482; hop.dartmouth.edu

OUR DYSTOPIAN MOMENT: 2017 AND THE POLITICS OF URINETOWN

Tuesday February 18, 4:30 p.m., at Top of the Hop, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. Free info: 603-646-2482; hop.dartmouth.edu

Feast for the Eyes

What began as a Vermont International Film Foundation series focused on works from the home countries of some of the state's New American communities (it now is a month-long film festival), The 2017 Global Roots Film Festival presents nearly a dozen national and international pictures centered on the universal themes of music and food. From the rich musical cultures portrayed in the documentaries *Mel Bush and I Am the River* (pictured) to the culinary customs in the 1987 French drama *Robert's Feast*, this collection of films gives viewers an up-close look at how different populations nourish their bodies and souls. Filmmaker appearances, reception and a panel discussion round out this cultural celebration of diversity.

GLOBAL ROOTS FILM FESTIVAL: FOOD & MUSIC

Fri-Sat, February 17, through Sunday February 18, at Burlington City Hall Auditorium, 55-63 Ave. for 1377 members, info: 802-252-1600; vifff.org



FEB. 17-19 • FILM

BEATLEMANIA



Fans of the Fab Four Rock to Rinkoff's Permanent Theatre for a revamped production of the Broadway and West End musical spectacle *Let It Be: A Celebration of the Music of the Beatles*. After opening on London's West End in 2002, the original show drew praise from Manchester's *Pinkie* for doing "everything and more to re-create that magic era" of the band's heyday. Presented in two sections, the touring production treats listeners to all-time favorites such as "A Hard Day's Night" and "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," then imagines the lads from Liverpool reunited a decade after their 1970 breakup.

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CONCLUSIONS

music

Gilded Garbage

The Mountain Says No coalesces behind a new album

BY JORDAN ADAMS

"I'm so fucking sick of hearing about Furs," jokes Andy Prappier, bassist of Kinsburg Pills rock quartet the Mountain Says No. He's referring to the experimental folk trio that in some ways birthed TMSN. Prappier plays alongside guitarist and former Furs-bassist Jedd Kettler and Ben Maddox, as well as drummer Justin Gaston.

When Furs was put out to pasture several years ago, Kettler and Maddox linked up with longtime friends and collaborators Gaston and Prappier. Maddox was something of a mentor to Gaston in his teen years, always keen to introduce him to his latest music, gear and the projects he was working on. It should be noted that Gaston is in his twenties, while his bandmates are in, as they put it, "prime top conditioner" in their forties. Prappier occasionally played saxophone with Furs and briefly collaborated with Maddox in a loop-based project called

Monthrentner (Maddox has a cat you do not look it up.) And here's a fun fact: Prappier was Gaston's band teacher at Kinsburg Pills middle and high schools.

TMSN is, definitely not a Furs reboot. When it was in the early stages, Kettler and Maddox knew that whatever their next project was going to be, it needed to be much, much simpler. Furs' music is a complicated, dreamlike offering of experimental, boutique folk, using capriciously more instruments than there were musicians to play them. TMSN's music is clearly, eclectic rock that occasionally encroaches on nightmarish but holds a 4-to-1 ratio of musicians to instruments. The stylistic transition, as well as a general coalescence between its members, makes TMSN's new album, *Gilded Landfill*, its most cohesive offering to date. The Mountain Says No celebrates the release on Friday, February 13, at Antlerz in Burlington.

Sitting in the Care of Legends, a



**WE'RE NOT SET IN STONE.
THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY THE
WAY WE'RE GOING TO WORK
FROM THIS POINT ON.**

JEDD KETTLER

subterranean hair beneath Flying Disc, Maddox's ex-lo and soundboard media organizer in Kinsburg Pills, the band began to attract their process. The crew is their designated space for chakra-smoking, sipping from mason jars filled with undrinkable brown liquid and, most importantly, rehearsing.

Kettler says that one of the main differences between Furs and TMSN was that Furs was a "studio band," meaning that their intricate compositions demanded complex live performances. To accurately reproduce an album's worth of Furs songs for a live show required laborious reconfigurations from song to song, all of which had to be worked out ahead of time and perfectly executed during the shows.

"It really was like putting on a play," says Kettler. "When we practiced for a show, we would run that show, that set list."

GILDED GARBAGE 39 P.65

REYNOLDS/RETNA.COM

DEE TO GO/GETTY

RYAN DAVIS

BA/RETNA

SOUNDbites

News and views on
the local music scene
BY JORDAN ADAMS

Benefits With Friends

In these dark times — and so, I'm not referring to midwinter — isn't it great when we can be entertained while also supporting a good cause? Here are a few events this week that, aside from being sources of fun, aim to sustain the good works of several local organizations.

First up is Comic Relief: A benefit for COTS. Now in its fourth year, the benefit stands comedy show takes inspiration from the British charity of the same name and its widely popular televised comedy specials that began airing in the 1990s. *Comic Relief supports the Committee on Temporary Shelter, a nonprofit organization that has been helping people experience homelessness since 1992.* This year's lineup includes comedians **ERIC SELLWATT**, **CRAIG HANNAHILL**, **ADRY PERCHUK**, **MIKE HANCOCK**, **TARLAN JENNIFER**, **FRANKIE**, **TRACY ORIAM** and host **KATIELEIGH KIRK**.

If you're so inclined, laugh yourself stagless on Thursday, February 18, at **Amoeba** in Burlington. For more

information about COTS, visit cotsweb.org.

Next stop on the benefit express is a rock show. Local art-scene mainstay, electro-poppers **HUMAN** & **THE SILENT NAME** and indie rockers **VILLAMILLAS** are doing the bidding in support of the **Island Water Collective**, a nonprofit group focused on absorbing the community on all things environmental. The benefit is Saturday, February 19, at the **Roxton West House Gallery** — aka **Magicians**.

Isles recently had to retire an important piece of screen-printing equipment, so the collective is seeking assistance in order to bankroll its replacement. If you aren't familiar with *Isles*, you may be familiar with some of its work. You know those lovely kerosene posters that you sometimes get to take home from **Higher Ground**? *Isles* produces many of those, and its artists are providing a selection for sale at the event. For more information about *Isles*, visit islesprint.com.

Oh, hey! This is pretty exciting: **Sevick** performs this week and are you aware that the band plans to unveil

a bunch of new material at this show. That's pretty cool, but he also said that tunes are from the band's forthcoming album. Did you know *Sevick* were releasing a new album this year? I didn't.

Isles said the album is completed, mixed and mastered and is awaiting its old press. While in this is still a secret, he revealed it is "music of ghosts and angels." I'm absolutely intrigued and amonished by that. Guess you'll have to go to the benefit to find out what *Isles* is talking about.

Last but not least, a question: When was the last time you played bingo? For me, it was probably French class during my freshman year in high school. If you enjoy the high-stakes number-calling that the age-old game offers, you might want to check out **MONSIEUR L'OR**'s **Carnegie Bingo Night** on Monday, February 20, at **Charlie O's World Famous in Montpelier**. *Monsieur L'Or* — read *mon seigneur* — plans on quizzing the show with crazy costumes and fascinations.

SOUNDWITS BY JEFF

HIGHER GROUND

BOOMBOX

February 17
HIGHER GROUND
1111 WILSON BLVD. SUITE 100
BURLINGTON, VT 05401

FRI 2:17 BoomBox

SAT 2:18 Winter is A Drag Band

TUE 2:21 Church, The Floozies
only 1 set

THU 3:33 Tchami
donor help only

THU 2:23 Local Muzik
Local Music Jam

FRI 2:24 Troyal
only 1 set

FRI 2:24 Steve Riley & the Mammoth Playboys
the playboys

SAT 2:35 with welcome The Machine performs Pink Floyd

SAT 2:35 Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybees
only 1 set

SUN 2:28 River Whyless
only 1 set

MON 2:27 LOLO
donor help band

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5:15
Schnitzel / 1980s Jazz Ensemble

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Global Roots Film Festival
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11
CONVENT LIGHTS THEATRE
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TWO WEEKS



CD Release Party for the Mountain Says No
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11
ARTSLOFT BURLINGTON

TWO WEEKS



Waking Windows Presents: Milo
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12
ARTSLOFT BURLINGTON

TWO WEEKS



VTIFF Presents: Miss Hokusai
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23
MAIN STREET LANSING
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
BURLINGTON



The BBF Celebrity Lecture Series: An Evening with Richard Ford, Presented by Vermont College of Fine Arts
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24
LYNN DAVIS CENTER
BURLINGTON

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music

Gilded Garbage

"They had it choreographed," says Popper.

In Faren, Kertler notes, the members were constantly switching instruments, "which was super fun," he says. But they knew it could be simpler.

TSMN have indeed simplified their instrumentation. Each member has just one. But what about songwriting?

Faren had a collaborative songwriting process that mostly survived the transition into TSMN — though what exactly the process is can murky at times. Madden and Kertler bring more "carefree" songs to the group, but that doesn't mean Popper and Gustin don't contribute.

"We tried to take a conscious attitude of [writing] everybody do what they're going to do until they feel like they're satisfied with it," says Madden.

"A lot of the songs that are on the new album either come out of a jam or a riff that James or Andy brought in, or an inferred idea that we then bring together as a band," explains Kertler.

Madden points to the band's collaborative song-arranging band, a group chockablock covered in chicken-scratch notation.

"On JV, we were like, 'No, dude. Do this. Do that,'" says Madden, referring to the band's 2015 debut. "Now, everybody just brings their shit to the table. Then we hash it out in arrangement."

"What's great about the more collaborative approach is that what happens comes much more naturally as a group," says Kertler. "So, if there's a build in the song, it's not because the guy who brought the song goes, 'There should be a build here.' It's because we all felt that while we were waiting on it," he continues. "That's what makes that stuff click and flow more naturally."

"I feel like, compared to our first album, which was all over the place, this one still has a lot of variety but seems more cohesive," says Gustin, who also is the founder of the instrumental rock quarter Sod Thule.

The new album is also more concise than JV — nine songs compared to 13. TSMN recorded the album's basic tracks in one session at Ryan Cohen's Robot Dog Studio. JV's prolonged production happened piecemeal over approximately 18 months.

"We were just getting to know what one guy would naturally bring to it [on

JV], and what everybody else wanted," says Kertler. "With [Golden Land], most of the songs were written together, and we had everything in mind before we recorded bare tracks."

Does this mean that TSMN would never take their time again like they did for JV? Probably not.

"We're not set in stone. This is not necessarily the way we're going to work from the point on," says Kertler, suggesting the band may choose a different process in the future — including taking more than one day for tracking. "But I do feel like coming out of JV, we thought maybe that album was longer than it needed to be," he continues. "By the end of it, I'm not sure we were looking like all of the everything was really adding to it."

"It really is fun to go back and over-look a bunch of cool song structures and create some spaces while you're recording," says Madden.

Golden Land'll be musically darker in tone than the mangled rock on the band's debut. TSMN acts as the haunting, atmospheric "Be Like Ryan," the prickly, grunged-out "You Say You're Alone" and the musing, stoner-rock crusher "Gilded Garbage" are as unsettling as they are confounding.

The band is hesitant to define its sound using typical terms. Instead, TSMN offer a creative description: cryptic-bombarium. Translation: up-tempo and brash but lyrically ambiguous and abstract.

Madden describes TSMN's music as derived from personal anxiety but not necessarily reflective of their individual lives. Gustin even admits he doesn't know what all of the songs mean, but he agrees the album is more concise than their predecessors.

"[Madd] doesn't need to write some other purpose. It doesn't need to be about something," says Madden. "Poetry get away with that shit all the time." ☺

Contact: jordan@sevendaystickets.com

INFO

The Mountain Says No with Invisible Horrors
Sat. 8:30 and 10:30 p.m., Friday February 11
8:30 p.m., at Artsloft in Burlington. \$5/10
AA, artsloft.com

Golden Land'll by The Mountain Says No is available at TheMountainSaysNo.com/shows, sevendaystickets.com.



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NOV 30!



Zach Nugent

prize. While this is hardly the beginning of her bingo-busting career, she recently decided to loan a local charity with a percentage of the evening's proceeds. This month, Miss Jukebox's ghouls are contributing to the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont. Last month, proceeds went to the Vermont Foodbank, and next month's recipient is Planned Parenthood.

Drone On

It's time for the next installment of *Signals!* If you aren't familiar, that's a monthly (every other month) music series that features intimate performances from avant-garde artists. Local experimental music maker **SARA GARDNER** carries the series, which began a couple of years ago during her stint as Champlain College's sonic artist in residence. This month's featured performer is Canadian drone artist **SARAH GARDNER**. Her music is sedate and atmospheric, stretching and bending simple tones into long, textured soundscapes. Gardner's drops her latest album, *All My Circles Run*, in March.

Creative audio-software company Soundulz hosts the event on its performance space at the Hood Plant in downtown Burlington. As always, a question-and-answer period follows each *Signals!* performance as a way to deconstruct the artist's ob-



Sarah Gardner

challenging music, and to let fans engage with the artists.

Catch Gardner on Saturday, February 15. Next on the *Signals!* roster, in April, is **KIDNATHRAUP**. Also, check out the *Signals!* showcase at the Willing Windows Music and Arts Festival in Woodstock this May.

Dead Man's Party

Jeep London, there sure is a lot of competition for what to do on Saturday night.

Dead Set, the weekly **SHAMUS** DUNE tribute at Nectar's in Burlington, celebrates its fourth anniversary this week with a special performance on Saturday, February 15. But it's not at Nectar's. Instead, the band will take the not-so-long-or-strange trip to the Rusty Nail in Stowe. (Also, the actual anniversary was February 14, but the big-time, fancy-pants celebration happens up yonder this weekend.)

Local Dead enthusiast **ZACH NUGENT** started Dead Set with **SEAN MCGOWAN** (bassist **ALEX BARRY** at Club Metronome). The first installment was intended to be a casual, almost open-mic-style affair, with coaches and lumps to give at a laid-back, boozy vibe. The musicians reached capacity that night and have yet to see a decline in popularity. The event was eventually moved downtown to Nectar's.

Though many musicians cycle in and out, Nugent has been the linchpin throughout the four-year run. He's been a Dead head since forever.

"[The Grateful Dead] was the first stuff I remember hearing, when I was 5 years old, as whenever my parents said, 'Nugent said over the phone.' **ARMY GARCIA** has been his go-to guitar inspiration ever since he took up the axe at age 12.

The special performance features an all-star band of the genre's aficionados who ever jammed. In addition to Nugent, the band consists of guitarist **CHAD BRIDGEMAN** (TUNICIAZ), drummer **AARON KATZ** (HOLY MILE) and **LUKE SMITH** (STRANDELO), keyboardist **RICHARD JONES** (JUNK TALKING/STILL), and bassist **OTIS FURBERG** (the ALLMANBROTHERS BAND, DEAD & COMPANY). ☺

Listening In

If there's a superlative, the superlative would be the ability to get songs stuck in your pop-psychic head. Here are five songs that have been stuck in my head this week. If you're also not stuck by yours, follow me on my quest on Spotify for weekly playlists with tunes by artists who make it to my head.

101. JAY-Z, "Star-Spangled"
RAGNELL BLOOM, "Proud Boy"
NEW MEANS, "When Did We Stop"
GOOSELOFT FEATURING NAO, "Sign of the Cross"
THE KINE, "One of Us Is Gonna Die Tonight"

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ADAM KANNAPOLEIS, WITH HIS TUNING

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7:30 pm, UVM Recital Hall

per performance fee and service fee

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HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP:

Wesley Taylor, <i>cello</i>	2/14
Robbie Shanks, <i>cello</i>	2/14
Southwest Rock Quartet	2/16
ETHAN - live duo	2/17
Wesley Taylor, <i>cello</i>	2/18

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WED. 15

burlington

OTISN GGG: Josh Hughes (acoustic) 8 p.m., free.
THE DAILY PLANET: Josh Neumann (blues) 8 p.m., free.
JPS/PR: Karaoke 10 p.m., free.
JUMPER: Paul Abbott (acoustic) (acoustic) 8:30 p.m., free.
LOUNGE'S BUSTED & CAFE: Cody Sargent (rock) 7 p.m., free.
LIGHT CLAM LAMP: Adam Smith (acoustic) (acoustic) 7 p.m., free. *The Oxford Brothers* (jazz) 9 p.m., \$5.
MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB: Open the with Andy Long, 9 p.m., free.
NECTAR: Mylet Night with DJ Brian (acoustic) (jazz) 8 p.m., free. *Arctic Circle Water* (folk) (jazz) 9:30 p.m., free.
RAIDERS: Dave Angus (jazz) (acoustic) 8 p.m., free. *Mountain* (rock) (acoustic) 10 p.m., free.
RED SQUARE: DJ Kenneth (mix) 8 p.m., free. *DJ David* (mix) 10 p.m., free.
ROCKING: Andy Shay & Friends (pop) (rock) 10 p.m., free.
WHEATON CONCERT CLUB: Grammy Opemika, 7 p.m., free. *Hot Rock Comedy* (comedy) 9 p.m., free.

chittenden county

MONDAY HOUSE: Open. *Conversations with Shakespeare* (jazz) (acoustic) 8:30 p.m., \$14.95.
STONE CORRAL BREWERY: Bluegrass Session 7 p.m., free.

barre/vt

BARRE'S BARE AND BURNED: CAFE: Pop (acoustic) 8 p.m., free. *Blues* (blues, folk) 9 p.m., free.

JOHN WILLIAMS: 9 (acoustic) (jazz) 8:30 p.m., donation. *John Williams* (blues, folk) 9 p.m., free.
MONDAY K&N: Open, 7 p.m., free.

stowe/sunapee

HARTSELL AT THE RED FOX: CAFE: *Stowe* (acoustic) 7 p.m., free. *Open Mic* 8 p.m., free. *Stowe* (jazz) 9 p.m., free.

middlebury area

MONDAY K&N: Open, 7 p.m., free.

mad river valley/waterbury

THE PICTURE THEATER AND CAFE: The Picture (jazz) (jazz) 7 p.m., \$5.
THE PICTURE THEATER AND CAFE: The Picture (jazz) (jazz) 7 p.m., \$5.

middlebury area

STRIKES AT THE BRIDGE: Open 8 p.m., free.

city lights/north lake

LOUNGE & CAFE: Open 8 p.m., free.

rochester area

LOUNGE & CAFE: Open 8 p.m., free.

rochester area

LOUNGE & CAFE: Open 8 p.m., free.



STAY AT IT THANKS EVER (POP, EXPERIMENTAL)

Theme Weaver

When deciding what to call themselves, **THE WEAVER** and her band debated several names, including Flower Power, Tender Thunder, Dogwood and Polyester Clu Clu. All were eventually rejected in favor of the band leader's name. But these particular names live on in the titles of several soundtracks—as themes, as she calls them—prepared throughout her album, *De Her Dream*. It's impossible to separate her from the warmth and wisdom of West, the jazz backbone of North Coast and the melodic experimentation of *Witch*. Catch *Theme Weaver* on Saturday, February 18, at the Light Club Lamp Shop in Burlington. **LISA TULLER** and **BETHAN LITTON** open.

northwest kingdom

RAIDERS: Open 8 p.m., free.

outside vermont

MONDAY K&N: Open 8 p.m., free.

middlebury area

STRIKES AT THE BRIDGE: Open 8 p.m., free.

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northwest kingdom

RAIDERS: Open 8 p.m., free.

outside vermont

MONDAY K&N: Open 8 p.m., free.

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STRIKES AT THE BRIDGE: Open 8 p.m., free.

stowe/sunapee

HARTSELL AT THE RED FOX: CAFE: *Stowe* (acoustic) 7 p.m., free.

middlebury area

STRIKES AT THE BRIDGE: Open 8 p.m., free.

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outside vermont

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REVIEW *this*

Last Train to Zinkov, *Regeneration*

(SELF-RELEASED / CD DIGITAL 100941060)

History, memory and tradition underlie *Regeneration*, the debut album from Last Train to Zinkov. LTZZ are David and Nathan Ganskov's father and son duo who have been performing together in various formations for a few years — the elder Ganskov has played music professionally in Vermont for more than 40 years. The band's idea came from the Ganskov family's ancestral home in Ukraine, they immigrated to the U.S. in the 1820s. The two recorded the album with Michael Chorney at the Goose Coop in Lincoln. Last Train to Zinkov had recording dates at his studio in Charlotte.

Regeneration is a collection of original and traditional tunes mostly rooted in American — folk, old-time and bluegrass especially. The duo's instrumentation



is simple: David on fiddle and Nathan on banjo. The latter primarily plays clawhammer style, a percussive technique common to American old-time music. Modern composition techniques keep the songs feeling fresh, but the family's Eastern European origins echo throughout.

"There" is an instrumental number that has David Ganskov breaking one of the most important rules he learned while studying music in college: Never play parallel fifths. Without going into too much detail, the rule stems from classical composition and asserts that parallel, or consecutive, fifths should be avoided, since harmonic flow better in opposing motion. So, how did Ganskov do it? He wrote a whole song based on parallel fifths. It plays back and forth between feeling nervous and fearless.

"Whose World" is another original composition, but its lyrics come from the Robert Frost poem "Stopping by

Woods on a Snowy Evening." The original poem's isolation and uncertainty resonate from the elder Ganskov's delivery of passages such as, "The woods are lovely / Dark and deep / But I have promises to keep / And miles to go before I sleep."

"Death" cracks its dark, somber lyrics with strumming and fiddling that ebbs and flows between agreeable minor-key and desperate, unexpected major-key themes. At its center, the younger Ganskov wails, "Oh, death / Oh, death / I hope it's out too cold and lonely."

Of the album's 12 tracks, "Last Train to Zinkov" feels the most old-world — though it seems to mesh with the New World banjo through it. It begins with a lone, sorrowful fiddle that expresses longing on a bleak, minor key. As the song progresses, the fiddle fiddle's quick 16th notes stretch, slide and growl. The whole thing plays like a handsome gale. *Ukraine*, which is not readily audible on Last Train to Zinkov throughout.

Last Train to Zinkov releases their album release on Friday, February 12, at the Town & Hall Theater in Middlebury. *Regeneration* is available at cdonly.com.

JORDAN ADAMS

Black Ox, *Black Ox*

(SELF-RELEASED / CD DIGITAL 100941060)

With Black Ox, Vermont has a new player in the small-but-not-negligible robust instrumental rock scene — a no tracks — a little less than half an hour of final jams — the trio's self-titled debut album means a well-articulated opening statement.

The album creeps in with waves of feedback and delayed guitar notes on the sort-of-psyche song, "Mistral." It's a quick little dip of creeping guitar that almost has a crescendo before billowing out like a puff of cobalt wind. It's pure stoner rock, which is a new-line way into this reviewer's heart, at least. (I'm facing how feedback, you guys.) It also sets up the roomier-toned opener, "Stemon," an erudite and quasi-progressive tune that doubles as a cerebral mission statement.

Here the band delivers a slow explosion of noise, with guitarist Alex

Cash finding notes to get weird and rilly around the driving force of drummer Carl Barrows. The song contains quick movements — a kind of crash course in prog-rock, a few moments, because Matt St. Gelina starts howling around the groove as the band gets ratty. It's an early display of Black Ox's ability to shift gears not only quickly but in an interesting fashion — likely a product of the trio's formative years together in the local band Vitals.

The track with instrumental rock that got bogged down and boring. Plenty of good bands have muddled and regressed their way into what's life of boring shit, despite good talent and intentions. By and large, Black Ox avoid this.

"Lull," for example, moves from jaunty indie rock to Cash and Gelina looking in riffs like a well-oiled machine to full-fledged funk reminiscent of early Queens of the Stone Age records.

On "Night Shapes" Black Ox nearly

lose the thread. But at barely more than a minute and a half long, the track doesn't have time to turn you off. It's not a bad song, just a bit overbearing. But it perfects the album's last two songs, which are much better by comparison.

The tunes in "Unwinding Clouds" better showcase the band than do earlier tracks on the album. Barrows and Gelina are in a deep pocket here, playing a simultaneously laid-back but pulsing rhythms. Meanwhile, Cash layers his guitars like fairy smoke before, as a progress synth break, the band comes back at, driving and punctuating the groove with stop-start arrangements and headspace.

The record ends with "Slipstream." At times nervous and delicate, the song displays a striking contrast of dynamics. It's also a showcase for Cash to lay down some freaky facts.

Black Ox may go head-on with a stronger sound — and, at least for now, are solely a studio project. Still, after a few listens to their debut, one suspects they have heavier punches to come.

Black Ox by Black Ox is available at blackox.bandcamp.com.

CHRIS FARMISWORTH



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MONDAY FEB

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP (Lamp Shop, 40 Club) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

HANDBASK POGA & PUP (Kamela's) 9:30 p.m. free.

MEETAS (The Hangover) (Jack) 9:30 p.m. \$10/\$15, 10+.

BARBERSHOP (South African) (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free. Also: Judd's/Cassidy (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

TUE. 21

hurlington

THE GARDENS (PMA) (Jagz) 8 p.m. free.

LUNNETT & BROWN (Cape) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP (Lamp Shop) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

HANDBASK POGA & PUP (Kamela's) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

MEETAS (The Hangover) (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

BARBERSHOP (South African) (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

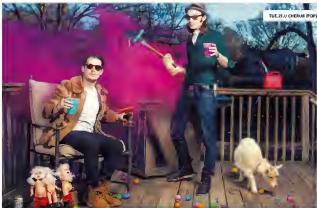
CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.



TUE. 21 / CHURCH (PMA)

Heartbreakers *Stays the pop duo's music holds romantic statements. Singer Jordan Kelly whistles sweet nothings in a Prince-esque falsetto over glowing "the synth. You play "You make me feel like an extra chicken nugget in a 20-piece meal," and "The way you backbite jiggles makes me feel all warm inside." What's the heart. The duo drew attention with the 2012 summer jam hit "Dimes & Missions" and, of course, bawdy, bohemian retro vibes. Church is currently co-headlining a national tour — presumptuously titled "Your Girlfriend Already Bought Tickets Tour" — with dance-rockers the **FLUORES**. Both bands play on Tuesday, February 21, at the Higher Ground Ballroom in South Burlington, with support from*

FRESH TIES

outside vermont

OLIVE BRITAIN'S (Vermont) 7 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

MEETAS (The Hangover) (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

BARBERSHOP (South African) (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

SWEET PHILIPPA (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

Two Brothers Tavern

UPPER & LOWER (Jagz) 9:30 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PARADE (Hurlington) (Comedy & Open) (opening) 10 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

HONEY HOUSE (Kathy Ryan) (country) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpellier

CHARLES W. WOODLAND (Kamela's) 7:30 p.m. free.

stove/sunup

MOON PLACE (Jagz) (opening) 9:30 p.m. free.

northwest kingdom

HEAT CRAFT (Kamela's) (Jagz) (opening) 9 p.m. free.

children's country

BLACKTAP PAIR (Open Hls) 9:30 p.m. free.

Home Is Where the Art Is

"Signs of Life," the Great Hall

BY MEG BRAZILL

At the Great Hall in Springfield, an exhibition of paintings by Roger Sandes and collages by Mary Welsh, together titled "Signs of Life," celebrates home and the natural world in distinct yet complementary ways. The Williamsville artists, who are married, use color, pattern and familiar imagery in their work. Those elements help the show connect with viewers in the Great Hall's common space.

Sandes' 15 colorful acrylic-painted paintings, most from his "Water Garden" series, reverberate with the movement of living things. His images, both horizontal (6½ by 22 inches) and vertical (the same dimensions, inverted), may showcase blooming lily pads floating on a pond or a swarm of butterflies aloft on an air current. Trout and red salmon swim within. Frogs run the marbles and dragflies hover. Hummingbirds abound.

Welsh and Sandes' personal garden at home provides inspiration. "Some things thrive, some jump the beds and escape to the fields, some things we lose just near as fast, but the garden endures," Sandes writes in an

artist statement. One wonders if his artwork, in turn, affects the garden's designs.

Sandes' paintings might be described as belonging to the pattern and decoration school, given to imagery of flora and fauna. They evince the influences of other artists who have used such elements. One might see M.C. Escher's interwoven repetitions

in Sandes' horizontal "Butterfly Effect," in which butterflies flutter along a black band that bends and disappears at the edges of the panel.

This painting and others make use of swaths of color in a way that recalls Escher's infinite loops.

The gallery labels call these "acrylic paintings," but Sandes more accurately describes them as painted drawings. Up close, pencil lines are clearly visible, showing that the paint was applied

after the drawing was completed. The pencil has a purpose, too. Its graphite outlines add sharpness to the flora and fauna, as do bolder black lines from a brush or pen. The works are all on gessoed mahogany or birch plywood panels and finished with a coat of acrylic varnish. The frames, painted



"Butterfly Effect" by Roger Sandes



"Jack O' Lantern Forest" by Mary Welsh



"Signs of Living Water" by Roger Sandes



RATON ETANG "...and the journey continues..." and art collages from her debut series opening her artist's career from the 1980s to the present. Through March 30. Info: 638-5202. Spotlight Gallery in Montpelier.

LUCKY UPON "Luck Upon Portraits and a Call to Action" an exhibition of paintings featuring posed models and endogenous open life. Through March 31. Info: 333-4340. Vermont Legislative Court Building in Montpelier.

LILA REEL "Transcend" an exhibition of oil paintings by the Vermont artist. **ROSEAN ACQUED** "History and portrait photography by the Vermont artist. Through February 26. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

LUNA MIRAGE "Jules inspired" paintings of birds and birds. Through March 31. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

PIA CASANO "New Surrealism" the art of a French "Surrealist" painter and drawing. Through March 31. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

SHOW BY "Artwork from the collection of the Vermont Contemporary Art Center. Through March 31. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

STEPHEN LEBLANC "To the far west" series by the Vermont artist. Through March 31. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

THOMAS LEBLANC "To the far west" series by the Vermont artist. Through March 31. Info: 253-3338. Knolly Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

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with her Square Pints and endow. Through April 2. Info: 253-3338. Helen Clay Art Center in Stowe.

CONTEMPORARY RESPONSE "The photographs by Vermont artists Gail Hall, Susan Jones and Mary Bennett. Through February 27. Info: 435-4441. Center for the Arts, Johnson State College.

mad river valley/waterbury "After Hours: The Art of a Frame" featuring Vermont artists. Through February 27. Info: 435-4441. Center for the Arts, Johnson State College.

middlebury area "The Art of a Frame" featuring Vermont artists. Through February 27. Info: 435-4441. Center for the Arts, Johnson State College.

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LOCALVORE TODAY

movies

The LEGO Batman Movie ★★

You can practically hear the bells being rung in the first of a passion along brightly colored spin-offs goes through the motions, while never approaching the mad genius of 2004's *Batman Returns*. The LEGO Movie. These days, franchising isn't so much a corporate strategy as a reflex. What Hollywood doesn't understand is that being hung in a book can't be herded and sold.

The LEGO Batman Movie starts pretty simply enough, with a black screen and Batman (voiced by Will Arnett) gruffly informing the viewer, "All important movies start with a black screen." Within seconds, though, the movie takes a turn for the devilishly not important. The Joker (Jack Black) smokes and his minions launch a power attack on Gotham. The Caped Crusader stops the foe with the men despite being grotesquely outnumbered, a guy that killed in *War* shows back in 1951.

All in a single breath, suggest director Chris McKay (who, by the way—count 'em, five—was credited, none of whom worked on the original). Then it's home to the empty mansion of Wayne Manor, where our hero enters a lonely library denser and grayer longingly at photographs of his lost parents. He says it is for himself as "the greatest or

glen of all time" but instead his way is a missing piece, but in his heart goes a hole to lay in the future. You see where this is going.

Where the first film offered a dazzling display of break, heavy pop-culture refs and for made-for-animatedness, this long by product makes its mark and comic price while telling what turns out to be the most conventional of stories. Over the years, we've been served up Batmen who dance and Batmen who breed. We've even been offered a Batman with nipples on his costume (George Clooney is still apologizing for that one). Courtesy of McKay and company, now we get a Batman who serves the comfort of family.

The makers of the movie threw in everything but the kitchen sink—though, if *Warner Bros.* could have the right to a superhero called the Ketchup King, it's a side bet they would have thrown him in, too. The film's a far less possible of product placement. Through the movie's plot line, roughly it's a story set in, various how little bit with which to occupy their minds. Though there are two pressing questions: what exactly characters as machines and overlaid as Godlike, the Eye of Sauron, Voltron, King Kong, Grendel, the Flying monkeys from *The Wizard of Oz* and Seti are doing in Gotham, and how the result



THE BATMACHINE (left) spins off into a LEGO Universe where a green-headed spinning dark knight is a star.

ing mayhem could possibly prove as his house as a door. If they'll all come for a *Superman* Movie Character Convention, watching these street would have been more fun.

Which brings us back to Bruce Wayne's empty house. Sure, it's a borderline nodding to watch the Dark Knight adopt dorky Dick Grayson (Michael Cera) and take him under his wing—he eventually becomes Robin. And as we return find LEGO fans with the new pop commensurate (Rorschach Damsel)—the eventually becomes *Batman* But watching this become a happy little

superhero is a pretty time and time off, compared with the mind blowing movie that rapped the original.

Original? That's more or less what it comes down to. The first one, the original. The follow-up isn't. Most of The LEGO Batman Movie's 94 minutes are devoted to action scenes, and audiences are likely to not the complex befuddled by their unrelentingly hokey-appeal quality. In this first of a great many planned LEGO spin-offs, everything is for fun and games.

RICK RISONAK

John Wick: Chapter 2 ★★★★★

When a respect certain filmmaker to fill the screen with artworks that embrace their own striking visual aesthetics. Paolo Sorrentino (*The Great Beauty*) has been seen. Tom Ford (*Chad Stahelski*) has been seen. And, veteran maestro, and director of the 2004 action flick *John Wick* and its sequel *John Wick: Chapter 2* is a movie in which the villain (Keanu Reeves) uses a power name New York mansion and delivers some great situations in front of masterworks such as Antonio Canova's "Hercules and Leda." (The scenes were actually shot in Rome's Galleria Nazionale d'arte Moderna.) Most American action films would use their art world solely to establish the lead guy's taste of fine art or European decadence. But *John Wick: Chapter 2* is a different breed. From its scenes backdropped by New York's great lodges to its pangs in the Roman Forum of Canova, the movie is as much in love with art and architecture as it is with one looking. There's, dare I say, a lot of art in it.

There's also a healthy sense of the absurd—the element that helped turn *John Wick* into a cult hit. The core character (Keanu Reeves), a former former assassin, might as well be named Achilles, and his black, phlegmy geyser is a joke even the first set used solely to establish the lead guy's taste of fine art or European decadence. But *John Wick: Chapter 2* is a different breed. From its scenes backdropped by New York's great lodges to its pangs in the Roman Forum of Canova, the movie is as much in love with art and architecture as it is with one looking. There's, dare I say, a lot of art in it.

In the first film, Wick developed an intense emotional connection to the dog he lost a puppy. In this one, he has a new dog, which he makes sure to bond safely before em-



A BOY AND HIS DOG (Reeves) cannot bring better results to Keanu's company,illy impact

bering on that other staple of action film plots: the Last Job. In his former life, you see, Wick belonged to an international network of assassins governed by a byzantine code of conduct. So, he has little choice when Sorrentino's character, a *Concussion* magazine calls on a long-outraged force. He wants his own sense of.

After an action-packed opening, the film takes its time with this setup. Wick does so

that (receding amazingly infamously) designed to make viewers reflect on "the nature of evil." Each time the director alternates the screen long then that effectively creates the constraints in space and maximized modern then that under their clashing both critical and broad. No pretense of fast cutting here.

There's little in the way of character development, either. But plenty of color. The film goes to ludicrous and delicious lengths to look not to be brutal or violent or violent, from the sensory hotel (a jacking elevator) provided over by its host to the big gay bar led by the musician Roscoe King (Lance Reddick). It's just packed with some bank scenes presented with the best of intentions of Terry Gilliam.

Moving through this movie's gallery, Reeves doesn't like Wick's characterization much further than "pissed off" and "mad." But he sells those qualities, a rarity as a genre increasingly populated by super-powered men.

For all its cultural Eric-Best, John Wick: Chapter 2 is a film of allusions, not of ideas. Viewers expecting an actual meditation on "the nature of evil" will be disappointed. But for a movie that's a knight in the winter-snow delirium, a violent film that keeps the eyes riveted even when the stand-wanders.

MARKOT HARRISON

MOVIEPLAYERS.COM

MODERN JAMES BOND The ice-cold drama from director Sam Mendes makes the story of a young 007 from American to young James Bond in a rough plot of *Mission: Impossible* (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

BRIDGES A baby-faced super-macho digital age or first feature film and the new series that started with the 1990 Japanese film *Wild Heart* (PG-13) and the 1990 Japanese film *Wild Heart* (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

ROCKY ONE: A CELEBRITY STORY We see the first between *Rocky* (PG-13) and *Rocky* (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

THE SPACEBENDERS The first film ever from the Mars, Earth, and the other planets of science fiction with its original and its long-distance travel *Rocky* (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

SPINOFFS The first director M. Night Shyamalan at the back of it with this new thriller in which stars as an FBI investigator who is the director of an action (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

NOW ON VIDEO

ADAMANT The first film in the *Adamant* series from director David Mamet (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

ADAMANT'S LONG HAITIAN The first film in the *Adamant* series from director David Mamet (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

ADAMANT'S LONG HAITIAN The first film in the *Adamant* series from director David Mamet (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

THE EDGE OF SEVENTEEN The first film in the *Edge of Seventeen* series from director David Mamet (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

Randy Quaid, Adrien Brody, and the rest of the cast present

THE WINTER STAR SERIES 2017

STOVE TOWN HALL

THE SPECIAL: The first film in the *Winter Star Series* from director David Mamet (PG-13) (reviewed by M.H. 10/03)

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OFFBEAT FLICK OF THE WEEK

BY HANCOY HARRISON



I Am Not Your Negro

Racism: A film about the life of the late, eloquent, and controversial writer James Baldwin. It is an independent watch for anyone who wants to understand and contemporary race relations in the U.S. It is a film about the life of the late, eloquent, and controversial writer James Baldwin. It is an independent watch for anyone who wants to understand and contemporary race relations in the U.S. It is a film about the life of the late, eloquent, and controversial writer James Baldwin. It is an independent watch for anyone who wants to understand and contemporary race relations in the U.S.

Official Film of the Week. The film is a film about the life of the late, eloquent, and controversial writer James Baldwin. It is an independent watch for anyone who wants to understand and contemporary race relations in the U.S.

READ THESE EACH WEEK ON THE LIVE CULTURE BLOG AT sevendaysvt.com/liveculture

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRISON

fun stuff

MR. BRUNELLE EXPLAINS IT ALL LIFE'S LITTLE SECRETS... REVEALED!



C. ROBERT WALDO BRUNELLE, JR. 2017

FRAN KRAUSE

DEEP DARK FEARS



Love is a deep dark fear of your own future in a relationship. From Krause at deep-dark-fears.com, and showing the your secrets. Available on Deepfears.com.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



EDDIE EVERETTE

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JEN ROSENBERG

It's the attack on democracy, stupid!

THE WRITER OF AN INFLAMMATORY
AUTHORITARIAN ESSAY WAS REVEALED
TO BE TRUMP ADVISOR MICHAEL ANTHONY



A MAN FREQUENTLY DESPISED FOR
SUSPECT FOR BARRISTER REPUBLICAN
WILL BE ATTORNEY GENERAL



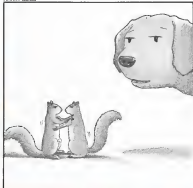
TRUMP ADVISOR STEPHEN MILLER
DEFENDED THE LIE THAT MILLIONS
VOTED ILLEGALLY



NOT SAME PEOPLE STILL DON'T GET IT



HARRY BLISS



"Mind if I eat it?"

RACHEL LIVES HERE NOW





2004-05-18 10:00

Here's my mantra for the next three weeks: "I know what I want, and I know how to glide it into my life." Say this out loud 11 times right after you wake up each morning, and 11 more times before lunch, and 11 more times at bedtime. "I know what I want, and I know how to glide it into my life." Whenever you do this little chant, summon an upflow of smiling confidence — a serene certainty that no matter how long the magic might take, it will ultimately work. "I know what I want, and I know how to glide it into my life." Don't let any noisy voice in your head undermine your link to the simple truth: Lift your heart to the highest source of wisdom you can imagine.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) I am launching a campaign to undo abusive stereotypes about you. Bulls there are still backward astrologers out there who perpetuate the idea that most of you are strong, stoic, stubborn slothpaws. As an antidote, I plan to highlight everyone's awareness of your sensual, sexual sweetness and your tenderly pragmatic sensitivity and your dignified, dynamic productivity. That should be song in the coming weeks, since you'll be at the height of your ability to express those superpowers. Luckily people will also have an enhanced capacity to appreciate you for who you really are. It will be a favorable time to clarify and plant the seeds you sowed in

GEMINI (May 25-June 23) Will Gemini's insatiable appetite replace Aladdin's belly, and will he be able to resist the siren song of Venus, the goddess of love, who is so seductive with his black-magic? Will Aries' steel claws dig and will he or Aladdin defeat the current astrological odds? you may live an unrequited affection for a soap-opera-type insect, not those. The pleasure of metabolism is tempting you. But the long, indulgent dieting that you will expose the cosmic currents in two fast days. Maybe you'll hear a siren, but having confusion after midnight in the pouring rain, for instance. Perhaps you'll break an outdoor table, with vigorous, grace or force, a female fish with a reformist mood, or recover a lost memory in a dusty basement.

CANCER [June 25-July 22] All naturally occurring matter on Earth is composed of 10 basic elements arranged in various combinations. Since some of these appear in trace amounts, they took a long time for humans to discover in the 16th and 19th centuries, elements were scattered when they tracked down arsenic of the 10 in a single location in an underground mine on the Swedish island of Västana. That small place was a mother lode. It's predicting a metaphorically similar experience for you, Cancerian: new access to a concentrated source that will work much like a mine.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) The next four weeks will be an excellent time to upgrade your understanding of the important characters in

your life. In fact, I suspect you will generate good fortune and meaningful synchronicities whenever you seek greater insight into anyone who affects you. Get to know people better. Let it flow. Let there be intriguing acquaintances who pass your curiosity find out more about them. Study the oddball party allegorically with the intention to discern their hidden workings. In general, practice being objective as you improve your skill at reading human nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) In 1781, English astronomer Arthur Phillip discovered a new comet that is expected to reappear in the southern part of the sky in 2008. The comet, named after the zodiac sign, is claimed the first to be sighted, despite the fact that 250,000 other comets are thought to be living their just as their ancestors had for 2,000 generations. Two hundred years later we attempted artificial raised human remains placed in the zodiacal sign in the White Ditch of Stonehenge, England for his people. I encourage you to make a compatibility with the symbolic and like Barnum's cosmological claims, Virgo – a ritual or gesture to connect your surviving life on earth or will find your reversal to restore your original and ancient youth.

LIBRA [page 29-Oct. 20] The recent *Baron* magazine's *Questionnaire* authored a 10-volume textbook on the art of writing. As simple as it was, it could have been simpler: "Success is as important as writing," he said. According to my reading of the astrological signs, that counsel should be a rewarding and even exciting one for you in the coming weeks. For the long-term health of your labor of love or your membership, you should focus for a while on what he told out of it. How could you improve it by making it obvious and even explicit?

SCORPIO [Oct. 23-Nov. 21] Do you know about the long-running kids show "Sesame Street"? Are you familiar with Big Bird, the talking eight-foot-tall orange canary who's one of the main characters? I hope so because your hairpiece is built around them. In the "Sesame Street" episode called "Don't Eat the Pictures," Big Bird solves a riddle that says a 4,000-year-old Egyptian prince from an ancient

Gift name I think this vignette can serve as a model for your own meditation. How? You can fully absorb and assimilate a very odd problem with the help of some playful, even child-like energy. Gift assumes that you've got to be relentlessly curious and clear in order to shed the wrongst burden. In fact, just the opposite is true. Trust, play and creative leaps.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your lessons in communication are reaching a climax. Here are five tips to help you do so in your "final exam." 1. Focus more on listening for what you need to know rather than on expressing what you already know. 2. Keep white lies and conversational clichés to a bare minimum. 3. Tell the truth as strongly and freely as you dare, but always—if possible—with a kind heart. 4. You are more likely to help your cause if you spread good news instead of the grumpy old. 5. Experiment with being unpredictable, try to refine your interactions with unexpected, informed but enigmatic phrases.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The meaning of the Latin phrase *comde regis* is "to be loved and obeyed." I urge you to avoid partaking of such a dish in the coming weeks. Such identity and figuratively if you're truly hungry for cooked cabbage, eat it fresh. Likewise, if you have a voracious appetite for stories, revelations, entertainment and information—which I suspect you will—don't accept the warmed-over recycled version lying on the brink, crop stuff that excites your curiosity and curiosity to seek more of another.

PISCES [Feb. 18-March 20] "We cannot simply sit and stare at our wounds forever!" writes Japanese novelist Haruki Murakami. "We must stand up and move on to the next action." That's your nightly scolding too, ultimately inspirational advice Pisces. According to my astrological analysis, you have divine power to identify and investigate your suffering. You have summoned a tremendous amount of intelligence wonder to understand it and further the healing. But right now it's time to turn your focus to other matters. Like what? How about *us*?

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